

FRONTISPIECE



*Drink freely of this Fountain and you'll find
Its salutary Streams improve your Mind.*

FRONTISPIECE



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Its salutary Streams improve your Mind.*

John Stephen Esq.
RURAL ELEGANCE

Wm DISPLAY'D, *Common*

IN THE
DESCRIPTION

OF FOUR

WESTERN COUNTIES;

Cornwall,

Devonshire,

|| Dorsetshire, and
|| Somersetshire.

WITH

ADDITIONAL REMARKS.

As yon clear Lake the pendant Image shows
Of ev'ry Flow'r that on its Border grows ;
So, in the fair Creation's *Glass*, we find
A faint Reflection of th' *Eternal Mind*.

L O N D O N ,

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MDCCCLXVIII,





A
SHORT VIEW
OF THE
Natural Beauties
OF THE
UNIVERSE,
By Way of
INTRODUCTION.

Each Herb the footsteps of God's Wisdom bears,
And every blade of Grass his pow'r declares.

Nature is nothing but the ART of GOD; a bright
display of that divine Wisdom, which demands our
eternal tribute of Wonder and Worship.

Dr. WATTS.



HERE is nothing that af-
fords a more sensible proof
both of the Existence and
Goodness of God, than the
Beauties of the Universe, those
innumerable, gay appearances, and delightful
NUMB. I. B prospects,

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prospects, which are scattered throughout all the scenes of the visible creation. Thunder, lightning, earthquakes, and such like astonishing phenomena of nature, may, perhaps, terrify us into an apprehension of a superior power; but this is a proof, which works upon us in the most sweet and agreeable, though, at the same time, forcible and convincing manner. This gives us the most lovely and amiable view of our Maker; and whilst it persuades our understandings of his being, engages our affections to rejoice in, love, and adore him.

The superstitious among the Romans were of opinion, that those places in the country, which were more pleasant than ordinary, such as the openings of woods, and the flowery margins of fountains, were the favourite abodes of some particular rural deities. This wild imagination of theirs gives us just grounds to reflect, on the sight of such agreeable recesses, that though there are, indeed, no footsteps to be seen in them of the presence of their chimerical divinities; yet, that an attentive mind may find there many visible marks of the real Presence and Handy-work of the Great Creator.

The

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The Beauty of the Universe demonstrates, beyond all contradiction, that it is neither the work of Fate or Chance, but of a powerful and munificent Intelligence, who considered, in the framing of it, not only what was needful for the preservation, but the ornament likewise of Nature, and provided, not only for the absolute necessity, but even the innocent delight and entertainment of all his sensible creatures.

If we contemplate the ample arch of Heaven, which hangs over our heads, how beautifully is it tinged with a sprightly azure? How is it studded with innumerable glowing spangles, or illumined with ten thousand shining lamps? What a glorious and splendid body is the Sun? With what a variety of colours do his beams adorn the wandering clouds? How beauteous as well as useful is the Moon, that nightly substitute of his, who cheers us, in his absence, with her borrowed beams? In how many several forms, in how many various dresses of light does she at different times appear to our eyes? If we contemplate, I say, those celestial bodies, must we not, with the Psalmist, acknowledge, that “the Heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his

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handy-work?" Are they not for ever expressing their hymns of thanksgiving to their Great Creator?

- We are told by the inimitable Mr. Addison, in his comment on the preceding text, that notwithstanding they all move round our dark, terrestrial globe in solemn silence; notwithstanding, in reality, no voice or sound is to be heard amidst their radiant orbs; yet

"In reason's ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious voice,
For ever singing, as they shine,
The Hand that made us is Divine."

As these miracles of nature, however, are not intended to be treated of in the subsequent Dialogues, we must (though against our inclination) drop the pleasing subject, as being, in some measure foreign to our present purpose; tho' 'tis possible, nay highly probable, that we may hereafter entertain our young readers on that instructive topic, in a distinct treatise, in case this first attempt should happen to meet with a favourable reception from the public.

From contemplating, therefore, the Beauties of the Heavens, let us now descend to
Those

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Those of the Earth. Here we have a new scene of delightful objects opened to our view: Though that paradise within, which consisted in a constant joy and inward tranquillity of mind, be at present lost; yet a great part of the outward paradise seems still remaining.—Who can behold the Spring, arrayed in all her youthful pride and gaiety, adorned with blooming blossoms, sprouting leaves, and an infinite variety of Flowers, without amazement and delight?

As the face of Heaven (we told you before) is tinged with a sprightly azure; so that of the Earth is overspread with a lively green, a colour, which, of all others, is the most apt to revive the imagination, and excite alacrity in the soul. The surface of the Earth is not in all places smooth and level alike; for that would have taken away all variety of prospect, but is agreeably diversified with hills and valleys, woods and plains.

How various are the species of Trees, all entertaining to the eye, as well as aiding and assisting to the conveniency of mankind? Among those of larger size, and taller stature, we may reckon the Oak, the Pine, the Elm, and the Beach. These please our imagination by their stately bulk and towering height,

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as well as by the various uniform figures and different verdure of their leaves. Among those of the lower class, we may take notice of the Lime, the Citron, the Orange, the Bay, and the Laurel. These are so remarkable for their beauty and pleasantness, that we plant them, for the generality, in our court-yards and gardens, as ornaments to our habitations. It would be endless to describe all the beauties of the vegetable world. There is not a single plant but what has some little prettiness to boast of; either the regular and symmetrical figure of its leaves, the gaiety of its colours, or some other innate faculty to render it the just object of admiration.

As this scene of nature, in particular, is drawn in the most masterly manner, and in the liveliest colours that can possibly be conceived, by Virgil, in his second Georgic, we should think ourselves guilty of an almost unpardonable fault, were we to pass by so beautiful a landscape unregarded.

“ How pleasing (says he) to the sight Cyturus looks,

Flowing in gentle waves of livid Box!
How soft, how solemn is Narycia's shade,
Where pitchy groves the gloomy skies invade!
What

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What lovely scenes in desert lawns appear !
 New to the harrow's toil, or peasant's care !
 Ev'n naked forests on Caucasian rocks
 Worn with the raging East's eternal shocks,
 (Here shiver'd limbs lie scatter'd all around,
 And the huge trunks extended on the ground)
 Yet these, ev'n these convenient stores pro-
 duce,

A various timber for a various use :
 Tall Pines for vessels; for the stately room
 Cypress and Cedar, with its strong perfume.
 From hence the thrifty peasant orbs his wheels,
 And hence the sailor seeks his bending keels.
 The binding Osier shoots a num'rous brood,
 And Elms for cattle yield a leafy food.
 For war the Myrtle and the Cornel grows,
 And Parthians bend the Yew-tree into bows.
 Nor will the smooth grain'd Lime or Box
 disdain

The rounding chissel, or the hollowing plane :
 Or feeble Alders dread th' impetuous tide,
 But lightly skim the Po, and on his surges ride.
 Whole swarms of bees repair to mould'ring
 Oaks,

There raise their cells, and hide their darling
 stocks."

What

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What rhetoric can describe the beauty, or arithmetic the variety of the several species of Flowers? In each month of the spring and summer a new set appears. The Primrose and Violet lead the van of the blooming train. These are succeeded by the Tulip, the Piony, the Flower-de-Lys, and a thousand others. Then appear the Rose, the Lily, the Pink, the July-flower, &c. With what bright colours has Nature painted the greater part of them? What regularity and geometric exactness has she observed in the figure and situation of their leaves? She has so curiously embellished the very fruits of the earth, that it is evident she designed them, not only to please the taste, and satisfy the hunger, but even to gratify the sight of man, and other animals. With how lovely a yellow has she burnished the Orange? With how beautiful a blush has she dyed the downy cheek of the Peach? With what lively strokes of natural paint has she adorned many sorts of Pears and Apples? How fine a blue has she spread over the Grape and Plumb? And with how full and deep a red has she coloured the Cherry?

“ With

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“ With joy the Gard’ner sees his labour blest,
His landscape-wall in light and shadows drest;
The purple Fig, with blushing Peaches joins,
And the gay scene with various beauty shines.”

Thus says the elegant Rapin, in his Treatise of Gardens; which is a work universally admired; but what is still more observable and praise-worthy, is his pious Admonition to his readers on this occasion. —

“ While thus the Garden shines with various
dyes,
Lift up from Earth to Heav’n your grov’ling
eyes:
Survey the lustre of those blissful bow’rs,
Crown’d with as many Stars, as Earth with
Flow’rs;
Then grateful your transported fancy raise,
And these admiring, their Creator praise.”

If we examine the several kinds of animals, we shall find the bodies of them adorned with equal, if not superior beauty, to what is found in the vegetables. To begin with MAN, the head and lord of this lower world. As he is endued with a rational and immortal mind; so the fair and majestic structure of his

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his body renders it a suitable habitation for such a guest. As he is the most excellent of all animals, he is likewise the most stately and beautiful. This appears more eminently in the female sex. The charms of these are the perpetual theme of poets and lovers. They celebrate them as divinely fair, as adorned with angelic graces, and shining with celestial beauty. Though some may think these encomiums too hyperbolical and extravagant; yet the most rigid Stoic, if he will but use his eyes, will be forced to acknowledge, that the form of many women is indeed lovely beyond expression. A wonderful symmetry and proportion of features, a fair complexion, a sparkling eye, a pleasing gaiety and sweetness of aspect, and a certain ineffable grace and comeliness, resulting from the combination of all these, may be seen in many of that sex.

Notwithstanding this soft subject has been handled with great delicacy and elegance by numberless poets, both antient and modern; yet no one of them all, in our humble opinion, has set Man and Woman in so fair and advantageous a light, as our inimitable Milton. His remarkably sublime passage runs thus :

“ Two

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“ Two of far nobler shape, erect and tall,
 Godlike erect ! with native honour clad
 In native majesty, seem'd lords of all ;
 And worthy seem'd ; for in their looks divine
 The image of their glorious Maker shone,
 Truth, wisdom, sanctitude severe and pure ;
 Severe ; but in true filial freedom plac'd,
 Whence true authority in men, tho' both
 Not equal, as their sex not equal seem'd ;
 For contemplation he, and valour form'd,
 For softness she, and sweet attractive grace ;
 He for God only, she for God in him.”

Though it must be allowed, that Adam and Eve were the master-pieces of the creation ; yet there are still numberless terrestrial animals, which have their peculiar beauties, and are the just objects both of our amazement and delight. Witness (amongst the four-footed beasts) the War-horse, the Elephant, the Lion, the Stag, the Grey-hound, and ten thousand more. How inimitably is the first described by Moses (as most commentators allow) in the book of Job, which (as the celebrated Dr. Young assures us) is not only the noblest, but the most antient Poem in the world ? To this just, though short character of it, bishop Patrick adds the following eulogium,

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gium, namely, "That its grandeur is as much above all other poetry, as thunder is louder than a whisper." The words of the text are these: "Hast thou given the Horse strength? (saith the Lord out of the cloud to his servant Job) hast thou cloathed his neck with thunder? Canst thou make him afraid as a grasshopper? The glory of his nostrils is terrible. He paweth in the valley, and rejoiceth in his strength: he goeth on to meet the armed men. He mocketh at fear, and is not affrighted; neither turneth he back from the sword. The quiver rattleth against him, the glittering spear and the shield. He swalloweth the ground with fierceness and rage, neither believeth he it is the sound of the trumpet. He saith among the trumpets Ha; ha! and he smelleth the battle afar off, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting."

This description, under all the disadvantages of having been written in a language little understood; of being exprest in phrases peculiar to a part of the world, whose manner of thinking and speaking seems to us very uncouth; and above all, appearing in a prose translation, is nevertheless so transcendently above all the heathen descriptions, that hereby

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we may perceive how faint and languid the images are which are formed by mortal authors, when compared with that which is figured, as it were, and just as it appears in the eye of the Creator.—In this description are all the great and sprightly images that thought can form of this generous beast, expressed in such force and vigour of style, as would have given the great Wits of antiquity new Laws for the Sublime, had they been acquainted with these Writings. We cannot but particularly observe here, that whereas the Classica Poets chiefly endeavour to paint the outward figure, lineaments and motions; the Sacred Poet makes all the beauties to flow from an inward principle in the creature he describes; and thereby gives spirit and vivacity to his description. The following phrases and circumstances seem singularly remarkable.

“Hast thou cloathed his neck with thunder?”—Homer and Virgil mention nothing about the Neck of the Horse, but his Mane: the Sacred Author, by the bold figure of Thunder, not only expresses the shaking of that remarkable beauty in the Horse, and the flakes of hair, which naturally suggest the idea of Lightning; but likewise the violent agitation and force of the Neck, which, in

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the Oriental tongues, had been flatly express'd by a metaphor less than this.—“ The glory of his nostrils is terrible.” This is more strong and concise than that of Virgil, which yet is the noblest line that was ever written without inspiration.

Collectumque premens volvit sub naribus ignem. GEORG. iii. L. 85.

—————and snorting curbs
The smoke and fire which in his nostrils roll.
TRAP.

The following expressions—“ He rejoiceth in his strength ;—He mocketh at fear ;—neither believeth he that it is the sound of the trumpet ;—He saith among the trumpets ; ha, ha !” are all signs of courage, as was observed before, flowing from an inward principle. There is a peculiar beauty in his “ not believing it to be the sound of the trumpet :” that is, he cannot believe it for joy ; but when he is sure of it, and is among the “ trumpets ; he saith ha, ha !” then he neighs, then he rejoices.—His docility is elegantly painted in his being unmoved “ at the rattling quiver, the glittering spear, and the shield :

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shield.”—“ He swalloweth the ground” is an expression for prodigious Swiftneſs, in uſe among the Arabians, Job’s countrymen, at this day. It is, indeed, the boldeſt and nobleſt image for Swiftneſs; neither is there any thing in the Engliſh language to be met with that comes nearer to it than the following lines in Mr. Pope’s *Windſor Foreſt*.

“ Th’ impatient courſer pants in every vein,
And pawing, ſeems to beat the diſtant plain;
Hills, vales, and floods appear already croſt,
And e’re he ſtarts a thouſand ſteps are loſt.”

GUARDIAN, No. 86.

We doubt not but the following beautiful paraphraſe of this paſſage by the celebrated Dr. Young, will be thought an additional entertainment.

“ Survey the warlike Horſe!—Didſt thou inveſt
With Thunder his robuſt, diſtended cheſt?
No ſenſe of fear his dauntleſs ſoul allays;
’Tis dreadful to behold his noſtrils blaze;
To pace the vale he proudly takes delight,
And triumphs in the fulneſs of his might;
High-raiſ’d, he ſnuffs the battle from afar,
And burns to plunge amid the raging war;

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And

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And mocks at death, and throws his foam
around,

And in a storm of fury shakes the ground :
How does his firm, his rising heart advance,
Full on the brandish'd sword, and shaken lance,
Whilst his fixt Eye-balls meet the dazzling
shield,

Gaze, and return the Lightning of the field ?
He sinks the sense of pain in generous pride,
Nor feels the shaft that trembles in his side ;
But neighs to the shrill trumpet's dreadful blast,
Till death, and when he groans, he groans his
last.

Without making any apology for the length
of this quotation, we shall proceed to a de-
scription of the Elephant and the Lion.

As these two particular animals are more
astonishing Wonders of Providence, and less
familiar to our eyes than the former, we flat-
ter ourselves, that the following account of
the first in prose, and of the last in verse, will
be looked upon as novelties, and instructive,
as well as innocent amusements.

They, then, who have studied the nature
of the Elephant with most accuracy, tell
many extraordinary things of the sagacity,
faithfulness,

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faithfulness, prudence, and even understanding of this stupendous creature.

Pliny, in particular, has given his readers a long detail of his numerous good qualities, and assures them, that he has more sense, and is more tractable than some of the lower class of the human species. “Maximum animal (says he) est Elephas, proximumque humanis sensibus, &c.” See his hist. nat. lib. 8.

This animal (though the largest of all four-footed beasts) has been frequently observed to do such things as are much above the capacity of any of his fellow-creatures; and for that reason is distinguished by the name of Behemoth by the Hebrews, that term signifying “a beast of singular service.” He is stiled Elephas by the Romans, and Elephant by Us, in all probability, from the Hebrew term Aleph, which signifies to instruct, by reason of this creature’s extraordinary docility; or from Eleph, which signifies a Head, or Captain; because the Elephant is, as it were, the Head of all other terrestrial animals. As this beast bears a great similitude; in divers articles, with the Behemoth described in Job, he is by some injudicious commentators, peremptorily pronounced to be the same animal; but we shall shew, in

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another place, that the Behemoth was a fish, or sea-monster, and an inhabitant of the river Nile. But to return to our description. Though he be of such an amazing bulk, he is not at all wild; neither will he feed upon carrion, as many other wild creatures will; but hay, herbs, pease and beans, are his favourite food, and principal subsistence.

As to his strength, 'tis very extraordinary, and almost beyond conception. With one stroke of his trunk, if provoked, he will kill a horse or a camel. An Elephant has been seen (as is recorded in history) to draw six thousand weight above five hundred paces with his teeth, and there is mention made in the Maccabees of an Elephant in Antiochus's army, which carried thirty-two armed men in a castle or tower, composed of very solid wood, upon his back, and the tower was bound with a very strong chain under his belly.

He is, as it were, the master-piece of God among four-footed beasts. He not only exceeds all others in bulk and strength, but in docility, dexterity and address, fidelity, long life, modesty, and even chastity itself; for it is peremptorily asserted, that he will never cover the female, in case he be apprehensive
that

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that there is any one eye upon his actions. Notwithstanding all these amiable qualifications, he is the most furious and terrible creature upon earth, when highly incensed; nothing then, in short, can stand against him; for he will overset trees, houses, and walls. He tramples under foot all that falls in his way. His arms are his trunk and his teeth. The former is a long hollow cartilage, or gristle, like a large trumpet; it hangs between his teeth, and serves him for hands; and with the latter, he will raise from the ground a prodigious weight. These are the ivory, which is so well known, and what Mechanics daily work upon in Europe.

Notwithstanding the idea just above given of the terror he creates, when too justly provoked, he is the gentlest of animals at all other times, and never exerts his strength except only upon compulsion. He strikes no dread amongst his fellow-beasts of the field; but if he passes through a herd of cattle, he puts them gently out of his way with his trunk, that they may not interrupt his passage. He feeds promiscuously with them in the fields and the meadows; and the weakest and tamest animals play with impunity before him.

Ælian

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Ælian says, that he may, with propriety, be called an animal of the marshes; because he lives along waters, and in moist places. He sometimes plunges himself into rivers, in such a manner, that no more of him is to be seen than the end of his trunk. In the summer time, he covers himself with mud, to avoid the heat. He drinks a great deal, and will swallow down, as it were, a river at a draught. His thirst is not easily assuaged. He is not in the least afraid of being molested, when he thinks convenient to drink; but takes abundance of time in the operation, and disturbs the waters before he tastes them. In a word, he is under no dread either of man or beast. Can the former take him openly and by force? No, doubtless; for his strength is too great for man to resist or overcome. He has his enemies, however, if we will credit Pliny, which sometimes overpower him, before he is rightly on his guard; for there are Serpents in the Ganges, as he assures us, who will attack him principally in the eyes; and some of them there, which are threescore yards long, will sometimes seize at once on his trunk, whilst he is drinking, and by dragging him along, will at last drown him in the waters.

We

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We shall close this article of the four-footed beasts with Dr. Young's poetical paraphrase on the Words of Moses, in the book of Job before quoted, Chap. xxxviii, v. 39 and 40, viz. "Wilt thou hunt the prey for the Lion? Or fill the appetite of the young Lions, when they couch in their dens, and abide in the covert to lie in wait?"

His elegant Description runs thus.

"But fiercer still the lordly Lion stalks,
Grimly majestic in his lonely walks;
When round he glares, all living creatures fly;
He clears the desert with his rolling eye.
Say, mortal, does he rouse at thy command,
And roar to thee, and live upon thy hand?
Dost thou for him in forests bend thy bow,
And to his gloomy den the morsel throw,
Where bent on death lie hid his tawny brood,
And couch'd in dreadful ambush, pant for blood;
Or stretch'd on broken limbs consume the day,
In darkness wrapt, and slumber o'er their prey?
By the pale moon they take their destin'd round,
And lash their sides, and furious tear the ground.
Now shrieks and dying groans the desert fill,
They rage, they rend; their rav'nous jaws distill
With

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With crimson foam; and when the banquet's
o'er,

They stride away, and paint their steps with
gore;

In flight alone the shepherd puts his trust,
And shudders at the talon in the dust."

We shall now proceed to another species of animals, and take some of their remarkable beauties under our consideration. The gay plumes and beautiful forms of birds are no less entertaining to the eye, than the harmony of their notes is to the ear. Who does not admire the beauty of the Ostrich's feathers, notwithstanding she has no other good quality but her swiftness to recommend her? Who is not charmed with the variegated colours of the Pheasant's wings, and the Peacock's starry train? The Turtle-dove likewise, the Parrot, the Nightingale, and numberless others of the feathered choir demand our most serious attention. Some are all over scarlet or azure, green or white; others adorned with a mixture of divers bright and gaudy colours, disposed in the most artful and agreeable manner, that can possibly be conceived.

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As the three first have been described by the greatest poets of the age, we cannot prevail on ourselves to pass over in silence such elegant and entertaining compositions.

“Gavest thou wings and feathers to the Ostrich?” says the Lord to Job. &c. see chap. xxxix, v. 13 to 18 inclusive, which passage is thus paraphrased by Dr. Young.

“Who, in the cruel Ostrich, has subdu’d
A parent’s care and fond inquietude?
While far she flies her scatter’d eggs are found
Without an owner on the sandy ground;
Cast out on fortune, they at mercy lie,
And borrow life from an indulgent sky;
Adopted by the sun in blaze of day,
They ripen under his prolific ray;
Unmindful she, that some unhappy tread
May crush her young, in their neglected bed.
What time she skims along the field with speed,
She scorns the rider, and pursuing steed.”

As “God, indeed, hath deprived her of wisdom, and imparted to her no degree of understanding,” according to the text, it is not to be wondered at, that there are many instances to be given of her folly and weakness. Besides, the unnatural neglect of her young, there

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there are the two following, we presume, justly laid to her charge, which are sufficient indications of her stupidity, were there no other to be produced. In the first place, this Bird, though of a monstrous bulk, covers its head in the reeds, and idly imagines, when she has so done, that her whole body is out of sight. In the next, they that go in pursuit of her, draw the skin of an Ostrich's neck with one hand, and that only proves a sufficient Lure to take her with the other. They have so little brains, in short, that Heliogabulus had six hundred of them drest for one supper. Before we leave her, however, as she has but a very indifferent character, let us relate all the advantageous things we can say in her favour. In the first place, she is the largest Bird that nature ever produced; her head, when in its natural situation, rises as high, and sometimes higher, than a man on horseback. Her head is like that of a duck, and her neck, though much longer and statelier, is something like a swan's. She is remarkable likewise for the strength of her wings, which she uses as sails or oars, to enable her to impel the air, and when she runs, they add exceeding velocity to her motions. Xenophon says, that Cyrus had horses that could

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could overtake the Goat and the Wild Ass ; but none so swift as could reach the Ostrich. In the last place, she furnishes us with the most lovely feathers, very broad and long, some white and others black, but which are tinged by art with all the various colours of the rainbow. They are placed as ornaments on the testers of beds, the canopies of illustrious personages, and the caps of children : They adorn the hats of officers, and furnish the ladies with very pretty fans. In a word, they add height to the stature of tragedians, and it must be confessed, the theatrical heroes would lose a considerable part of their grandeur were they divested of their beauteous feathers.

Let us hear now what Mr. Pope says of the Pheasant, in his entertaining poem, entitled, *Windfor Forest*.

“ See from the brake the whizzing Pheasant
springs,

And mounts, exulting, on triumphant wings;
Short is his joy ! He feels the fiery wound,
Flutters in blood, and panting beats the
ground.

Ah ! What avail his glossy, varying dyes,
His purple crest, and scarlet-circled eyes,

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The vivid green his shining plumes unfold ;
His painted wings, and breast that flames with
gold ?”

To this we will add a short Description of
the Peacock by Dr. Young.

“ How rich the Peacock !—What bright glo-
ries run

From plume to plume, and vary in the sun ?
He proudly spreads them to the golden ray,
Gives all his colours, and adorns the day.
With conscious state the spacious round dis-
plays,

And slowly moves amid the waving blaze.”

As the Ostrich is the object of our admira-
tion for his stature, and the Peacock and the
Pheasant for their fine feathers, let us close
our account of this species of animals, with
a Description of the Nightingale, which is
one of the least, but the most harmonious
creatures in the universe.

Of all the various species of Birds, we ge-
nerally look upon those as the most agreea-
ble companions, that are most melodious, or
can prattle most. However entertaining such
may prove, they are notwithstanding foils
only

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only to the Nightingale, whose single voice is more ravishing than the whole choir besides. When we have been entertained with a melodious symphony of instrumental music, how agreeably are we surpris'd to hear an inimitable violin, without any other hand to accompany it ! 'Tis the very same in a concert of Birds. After we have heard a full chorus celebrate the Great Author of their existence, and proclaim their grateful acknowledgments to him, by whose bounteous hand they are nourished and preserved ; what can be a more agreeable novelty than to hear the Nightingale, in the evening, begin to tune her solitary strains, and continue them till the night is far advanced ? One would imagine, that he was conscious of his own natural perfections, and that 'twas out of complaisance to us men, as well as to gratify his own inclinations, that he condescends to sing, when all his little fellow-choristers are silent. Nothing animates him so much, as to find all Nature hush, and still around him. 'Tis then that he composes, and puts all his melody into execution. He wanders from solemn notes to such as are more sprightly ; from a smooth, easy air, to the wildest notes, that can possibly be conceived ; from the spright-

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liest quavers and divisions to the softest and most melancholy strains; when he has indulged himself in those plaintive airs for a short time, he recollects himself on a sudden, and falls into his former vivacity again! Who could be so incurious, as not to want a sight of this matchless Musician, that in such an obliging manner ravishes our ears thus every morning and evening? We are all tempted to visit him; but he is so reserved, that 'tis next to an impossibility to see him. Your Virtuosi, in all sciences, have their capricious humours. We imagine, that Nature has furnished him with an open breast, and indefatigable organs, to enable him to sustain such strong and grateful sounds without intermission; such infinite and just proportions; such a vast compass of music; and yet, at last, we find it all proceeds from the throat of a very little Bird, who, without instruction, study, or the least preparation, performs all these stupendous operations.

From the land-animals, let us now gradually proceed to those that are the inhabitants of the waters. The Fish likewise of the mighty ocean partake of this universal beauty, which Nature has scattered over all her works, in the just proportion and symmetry of their parts.

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parts. Here the Behemoth, by some injudiciously taken for the Elephant (as we have before observed) and the Leviathan, as unhappily misconstrued for the Whale by others, are as justly the objects of our admiration, as the Elephant and Ostrich, above described, demanded our attention upon the earth. Here too the Dolphins are celebrated for their beauty, with numberless other fish of stupendous size.

In regard to the two first, we shall have recourse to the Sacred Scriptures, and refer our young pupils once more to the book of Job for their farther entertainment.

Moses's description of the first is in the fortieth chapter of the book of Job, from v. 15 to 24 inclusive. "Behold now Behemoth (saith the Lord in the cloud to his servant Job) which I made with thee, he eateth grass like an ox, &c."

To this we shall add Dr. Young's beautiful paraphrase of the text with his short, but very just and critical remark upon it.

"Mild is my *Behemoth; tho' large his frame,
Smooth is his temper, and repress his flame,
While

* Behemoth is a word of Egyptian termination, signifying not the Elephant, but a creature in that country,

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While unprovok'd ; this native of the flood
Lifts his broad foot, and puts ashore for food ;
Earth sinks beneath him as he moves along,
To seek the herds, and mingle with the throng.
See, with what strength his harden'd loins are
bound,

All over proof, and shut against a wound !
How like a mountain-cedar moves his tail !
Nor can his complicated sinews fail :
Built high and wide, his solid bones surpass
The bars of steel ; his ribs are ribs of brass ;
His port majestic, and his armed jaw,
Give the wide forest and the mountain law ;
The mountains feed him ; there the beasts
admire

The mighty stranger, and in dread retire.
At length his greatness nearer they survey,
Graze in his shadow, and his eye obey.

country, called, by the Greek writers, Hippotamos, that is, the River-Horse ; for it appears by the second Book of Esdras, Chap. vi. v. 49. that the Hebrews reckon the Behemoth, not among the land-animals, but among those belonging to the water, which were created on the fifth day. And there are none that we know of that sort, to whom the characters here mentioned belong, but the creature here particularly named.

Dr. Patrick.

The

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The fens and marshes are his cool retreat,
His noon-tide shelter from the burning heat;
Their sedgy bosoms his wide couch are made,
And groves of willows give him all their shade:
* His eye drinks Jordan up; when fir'd with
drought,

He trusts to turn its current down his throat;
In lessen'd waves, it creeps along the plain,
He sinks a river, and he thirsts again."

The inspired Penman's Description of the
last, takes up the whole xlii chapter of the

* The latter part of this Description is evidently
an Hyperbole, and it seems surprising to me, that
any commentators should strain so hard, as some
have done, for a new construction of it.—Now an
Hyperbole, literally speaking, is an impossibility;—
it is the importance, therefore, of the subject that
justifies the use of that rhetorical figure. —Thus,
for instance, St. John having wrote an account of
the life, sufferings, and death of our Blessed Lord
and Saviour, in order to give the reader an idea of
the importance of a life so full of meritorious ac-
tions, makes use of the following Hyperbole.—
"There are also (says he) many other things which
Jesus did, the which, if they should be written,
every one, I suppose, that even the world itself
could not contain the books that should be written."

Book

xxxii INTRODUCTION.

Book of Job. “ Canst thou draw out Leviathan with a hook, &c. to the end.

— Here we shall take the liberty once more to transcribe Dr. Young’s beautiful paraphrase of this long, remarkable passage; and close our account with his judicious annotations upon it.

“ Go to the Nile, and from its fruitful side,
Cast forth thy line into the swelling tide;
With slender hair Leviathan command,
And stretch his vastness on the loaded strand:
Will he become thy servant? Will he own
Thy lordly nod, and tremble at thy frown?
Or with his sport amuse thy leisure-day,
And bound in Silk, with thy soft maiden’s
play?

Shall pompous banquets swell with such a prize,
And the bowl journey round his ample size?
Or the debating merchants share the prey,
And various limbs to various marts convey?
Thro’ his firm skull what steel its way can win?
What forceful engine can subdue his skin?
Fly far and live; tempt not his matchless
might;

The bravest shrink to cowards in his sight;
The rashest dare not rouse him up; who then
Shall turn on ME, among the sons of men?

Am

INTRODUCTION. xxxiii

Am I a debtor? Hast thou ever heard
Whence come the Gifts which are on **ME**
conferr'd?

My lavish fruit a thousand vallies fills,
And mine the herds that graze a thousand hills;
Earth, sea, and air, all Nature is my own,
And stars and sun are dust beneath my throne;
And dar'st thou with the world's great father
vye,

Thou, who dost tremble at my creature's eye?
At full my huge Leviathan shall rise,
Boast all his strength, and spread his wondrous
size.

Who, great in arms, e'er stript his shining
mail,
Or crown'd his triumph with a single scale?
Whose heart sustains him to draw near? Be-
hold

Destruction yawns! His spacious Jaws unfold!
And, marshall'd round the wide expanse, dis-
close

Teeth, edg'd with death, and crowding rows
on rows;

What hideous fangs on either side arise,
And what a deep abyfs between them lies!
Metè with thy lance, and with thy plummet
found

The one how long, the other how profound!
His

xxxiv INTRODUCTION.

His bulk is charg'd with such a furious soul
Thick clouds of smoke from his spread nostrils
roll,

As from a furnace ; and, when rous'd his ire,
Fate issues from his Jaws in streams of fire :
The rage of tempests, and the roar of seas,
Thy terror, this thy great Superior please ;
Strength on his ample shoulder fits in state,
His well-join'd limbs are dreadfully compleat ;
His flakes of solid flesh are slow to part,
As steel his nerves, as adamant his heart.

When late awak'd, he rears him from the
floods,

And stretching forth his stature to the clouds,
Writhes in the sun aloft his scaly height,
And strikes the distant hills with transient light,
Far round are fatal damps of terror spread ;
The mighty fear, nor blush to own their dread.

Large is his front ; and when his burnish'd
eyes

Lift their broad lids, the morning seems to rise.

In vain may death in various shapes invade,
The swift-wing'd arrow, the descending blade ;
His naked breast their impotence defies ;
The dart rebounds, the brittle sauchion flies :
Shut in himself, the war without he hears,
Safe in the tempest of their rattling spears ;

The

INTRODUCTION. xxxv

The cumber'd strand their wasted vollies strow;
His sport, the rage and labour of the foe.

His pastimes, like a cauldron, boil the flood,
And black the ocean with the rising mud;
The billows feel him, as he works his way;
His hoary footsteps shine along the sea;
The foam, high wrought with white, divides
the green,

And distant sailors point where death hath been.
His like earth bears not on her spacious face,
Alone in Nature stands his dauntless race;
For utter ignorance of fear renown'd;
In wrath he rolls his baleful eyes around,
Makes ev'ry swell'n, disdainful heart subside,
And holds dominion o'er the sons of pride."

Several creatures (says this curious Naturalist) described in this, and the preceding chapters, are Egyptian; this and that of the Blemmye are notoriously so; they are the River-Horse and the Crocodile, those celebrated inhabitants of the Nile; and on those two it is that the Inspired Penman chiefly dwells. It would have been expected from an Historian, more remote from that river than Moses, in his catalogue of creatures, produc'd to magnify his Creator, to have dwelt on the two greatest works of his hand, namely, the Elephant

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phant and the Whale. This is so natural expectation, that some commentators have render'd Bebeemoth and Leviathan, the Elephant and Whale, tho' the Descriptions in our author will not admit of it; but Moses lived among the Egyptians, who were, as we may well suppose under an immediate terror of the Hippotamos and Crocodile, from their daily mischiefs and ravages, it is very accountable why he should permit them to take place.

By a gradual progression, we shall now descend to the lesser fish that sport and play within our rivers; of which there are a profusion, the symmetry of whose parts, and the silver lustre of whose scales demand our attention with as much justice as those larger and more stupendous Miracles of Nature. Let us hear what Mr. Pope says of them.

“ Our plenteous streams a various race supply
The bright-ey'd Perch, with fins of Tyrian
dye;

The silver Eel, in shining volumes roll'd,
The yellow Carp, in scales bedropt with gold,
Swift Trouts, diversify'd with crimson stripes,
And Pikes, the tyrants of the watry plains

INTRODUCTION. ~~xxx~~ 11

To proceed still one degree lower. The very insects, tho' so much inferior to the other animals hitherto described, in point of bulk, do not at all fall short of them with regard to form and ornament. With how exact a proportion and harmony of parts has nature framed their little bodies? What a shining gloss and polish has she cast over their limbs, and with what gay and lively colours has she painted them? I might instance the Butterfly, the Spanish-Fly, the Adderspear, the common Fly, and ten thousand others.

We shall take the liberty, without making the least apology, to introduce here the following poetical description of the first-mentioned insect, though we ingenuously confess we don't know the author to whom we are indebted for our Assistance.

See! to the Sun (says he) the Butterfly displays

its glittering wings, and wantons in its rays;
a life exulting, o'er the meadows flies,
from each flow'r, and breathes the vernal skies.

its splendid plumes, in graceful order show
the various glories of the painted bow.

NUMB. II.

E

Where

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INTRODUCTION.

Where love directs, a libertine it roves,
And courts the fair ones thro' the verdant
groves."

What we have here produced, however, is but a faint and imperfect sketch of the Natural Beauties of the Universe. He that would have a just and adequate idea of them, must consult the original. The beauties of Nature are too various and too exquisite to be painted to the life by any pencil, or described by any eloquence. A thousand secret charms and inexpressible graces will be wanting in the most compleat and lively representation we can possibly give of her.

Now we may observe, that abundance of these things, which contribute to the beauty and ornament of the Universe, seem scarcely of any other use. Of this sort are many herbs and flowers, and precious stones; of which we know no other use or design in nature, but to garnish the world, entertain the senses, and refresh the imagination of man and other animals. And even in the things that are of necessary use for preserving the frame of Nature, or the several species of animals, we find ornament and conveniency joined together. Thus, for instance, the fruits of the earth

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earth afford us a pleasant and wholesome nourishment ; but this they would have done as well, though they had not been so curiously painted with colours, as many of them are. And as to animals themselves ; it was necessary, indeed, for the preservation of their lives, that they should be furnished with limbs, and organs of sensation ; but it was by no means necessary to this end, that their limbs should be formed with all that exact symmetry and proportion, and adorned with such a variety of gay colours, as we find in many of them. The Pheasant might have procured his food, and propagated his kind, without his gaudy plumes, and the Peacock without his starry train.

Now can any man imagine, that all this beauty and ornament which so visibly appears in every part of Nature, and accosts his eye on which side soever he turns it, can have any other author than a wise and gracious God ? Would Fate or Chance, those blind and thoughtless Principles, have not only so plentifully provided what was necessary for the preservation of the system of the world, and the several species of plants and animals contained in it, but have consulted likewise for the ornament of the one, and the delight

^{XL}
~~xxviii~~ INTRODUCTION.

and entertainment of the other? It must (if I may be indulged the expression) be a very wise and munificent Chance, indeed, that, not content to make a plain, habitable world, has observed all this order and decency in its work, and garnished it out with all these curious embellishments and decorations. Why should the colour of the sky be a beautiful azure, and that of the grass and trees a lively green, rather than a brown, or grey, or any other less pleasing to the sight, if a wise Providence had not the disposal of things? Or why should the eyes of animals be both of an equal size, and of the same make and colour, and placed at an equal distance on either side the nose? And the like questions may be asked, in respect of all the order and harmony in Nature. It would be a difficult matter to convince a reasonable man, that even a common cottage, which only serves to shelter its inhabitants from the winds and weather, was the mere effect of Chance; but he would certainly think any one distracted, who should seriously endeavour to persuade him, that a fair and magnificent palace, exactly regular and symmetrical in its design, adorned with elegant painting and sculpture, and furnished with every thing which pleasure and ornament

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~~XXX~~

ornament, as well as necessity and use require, had no other original than the lucky concurrence of a parcel of atoms.

Having thus given our young pupils a transient idea of the Natural Beauties of the World in general, we shall enter forthwith (without any formal apology in the like cases) on the prosecution of the plan proposed; for we are firmly persuaded, that the wonderful scenes of Providence, which are so visible and so numerous in every county throughout the whole kingdom of Great-Britain, can never be considered by any reader, how ill-natured or censorious soever he may possibly be, as a trivial, useless, or unpleasing entertainment, unless we and our assistants too should be more shamefully remiss than ordinary, and so very unhappy as to render them such, by our injudicious complements; which we flatter ourselves is not fairly to be supposed. But besides, since it must be allowed, that an attempt, how weak or imperfect soever, to promote any one branch of useful knowledge, is, in some degree, generous and praise-worthy, there are sufficient grounds for us, with modesty, to hope, that our honest endeavours to inspire the sons and daughters of men with an early sense of those infinite obligations

E 3

they.

INTRODUCTION.

they lie under to their Great Creator, will be justly entituled to some candour and indulgence ; especially from all such parents, guardians, and governesses, who are more solicitous that the children entrusted to their care and conduct should be virtuous than rich ; since wealth, without virtue, will never make them truly happy ; whereas virtue alone is capable of making them easy in this world, and sure of making them compleatly happy in that which is to come.

Now, not doubting in the least, but that the short Plea for our intended undertaking, above-made will be approved, we shall only add the following truly pious as well as poetical Hymn of Thanksgiving to the Great Author of Nature, composed (as we are informed) by an eminent Divine of the Church of England, not long since deceased, and earnestly recommend it to the perusal of all our young pupils as a very proper Morning-Sacrifice, before they enter upon their studies.

“ Arise, my Muse, awake thy sleeping lyre,
And fan with tuneful airs the languid fire.
On daring pinions rais'd, low themes despise,
But stretch thy wings in yon bright, azure skies.

Ther,

INTRODUCTION. ~~xxx~~

Thee, best and greatest, let my grateful lays,
Parent of universal Nature, praise!
All things are full of Thee! where-e'er mine
eye,

Is turn'd, I still thy present Godhead spy.
Each herb the footsteps of thy wisdom bears,
And ev'ry blade of grass thy pow'r declares.

As yon clear lake the pendent Image shews,
Of ev'ry flow'r that on its border grows;
So in the fair Creation's Glass, we find
A faint reflection of th' Eternal Mind.
Whate'er of goodness, and of excellence,
In Nature's various scenes accost the sense,
To Thee alone their whole perfection owe;
From Thee, as from their proper fountain, flow.

Fair are the Stars that grace the sable night,
And beauteous is the Dawn of rosy Light;
Lovely the prospect of each flow'ry field,
These limpid streams, and shady forests yield;
To Thee compar'd, nor fair the Stars of night,
Nor beauteous is the Dawn of rosy Light;
Nor lovely is the scene each flow'ry field,
The limpid streams, and shady forests yield.
Incapable of bounds, above all height,
Thou art invisible to mortal sight;
Thyself thy Palace! and sustain'd by Thee,
All live and move in thy Immenfity.

Thy

~~xxxiii~~ INTRODUCTION.

Thy voice omnipotent did infant-day,
Through the dark realms of empty space
display ;

This glorious arch of heav'nly sapphire rear,
And spread this canopy of liquid air.

At thy command, the Starry Host, the Sun,
And Moon unerringly their courses run ;
Ceaseless they move, obsequious to fulfil
The task assign'd by thy Almighty Will :
Thy vital pow'r, diffus'd from pole to pole,
Inspires, and animates this ample Whole.

If thou wert absent, the material mass
Would without motion lie in boundless space ;
The Sun, arrested in his spiral way,
No longer would dispense alternate day ;
A breathless calm would hush the stormy
wind,

And a new frost the flowing rivers bind.
Whate'er, thro' false Philosophy, is thought
To be by Chance, or Parent Nature wrought,
From Thee alone proceeds:—With timely
rain,

Thou sat'st the thirsty field, and springing
grain.

Inspir'd by Thee, the northern tempests sweep
The bending corn, and toss the foamy deep :

Inspir'd

X L V

INTRODUCTION. ~~SCENE~~

Inspir'd by Thee, the softer southern breeze
Wafts fragrant odours thro' the trembling
trees ;

By Thee conducted thro' the darksome caves,
And veins of hollow earth, the briny waves,
In bubbling springs, and fruitful fountains
rise,
And spout their sweetned streams against the
skies.

By Thee the brutal kind are taught to chuse
Their proper good, and noxious things refuse ;
Hence each conforms his action to his place,
Knows to preserve his life, and propagate his
race ;

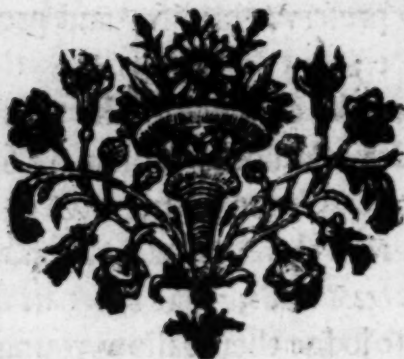
Hence the wise conduct of the painful Bee,
Who future want does constantly foresee,
Contrives her waxen cells, with curious skill,
And with rich stores of gather'd honey fill.
Hence the gay birds, that sport in fluid air,
Soft nests to lodge their callow young prepare,
Rear with unwearied toil the tender brood,
From harms protect, and furnish 'em with
food.

But Man, whom thy peculiar grace design'd
The Image of thy own Eternal Mind ;
Man, thy chief favourite, Thou did'st inspire
With a bright spark of thy celestial fire.

Rich

~~xxxiv~~ INTRODUCTION.

Rich with a thinking soul, with piercing eye
He views the spacious earth, and distant sky
And sees the various marks of skill divine,
That in each part of Nature's system shine:
Him therefore it becomes, in grateful lays,
To sing his bounteous Maker's solemn praise.



THE



A New MAP of
ENGLAND
and WALES.

GERMAN

OCEAN

ENGLISH CHANNEL

PART

THE
Natural Beauties
OF
CORNWALL.

DIALOGUE I.

BETWEEN
TUTOR and PUPIL.

PUPIL.

IN what part does this country lie, and
by what name was it formerly known?

TUTOR.

It extends farther to the west than any
other part of Great-Britain, and is a portion
only of what, in the time of the Romans,
was called Dunmonium.

P. From

2 The NATURAL BEAUTIES OF

P. From whence did it derive that name?

T. The most natural origin of it is from the term Dun (which, from divers instances of towns ending in Dunum, appears to have signified a hill) and the Greek term Moina, mines, which is much the same thing as to say, hills of tin-mines; for which, no doubt, it was antiently more noted than on any other account.

P. From whence does it take its present denomination of Cornwall?

T. It is variously accounted for. Some suppose it to be derived from one *Corinæus*, a companion of Brute, and quote the following lines to support their opinion.

*Pars Corinæa datur Corinæo; de duce nomen
Patria; deque viro gens Corinensis habet.*

In English thus.

Cornwall by grant to *Corinæus* came;
The county from the prince receiv'd its name.

Others again will have it taken from the antient British term *Karn*, which signifies a rock, and from Gaul or *Waul*, by changing *G.* into *W.* which, in the German dialect is very common.

The

CORNWALL: 3

The most easy and rational manner, however, of accounting for it seems to be this. When the Saxons had driven the Britons into the two extreme parts of their country, they called one Retreat-wales, and the other Corn-wales; either from the shape of it, which resembles a Hunting-Horn, in Latin called Cornu; or more probably from the large promontories, which project, like so many Horns, into the sea, which the Britons call Kern.

P. In what degrees of longitude and latitude is this county situated?

T. In fifty degrees thirty minutes north latitude, and six degrees longitude; being surrounded on all sides by the sea, the east only excepted, where 'tis parted from the county of Devon by the river Tamar.

P. How are the northern western and southern coasts respectively washed?

T. The northern is washed by the Bristol Channel, the western by St. George's, and the southern by the British Sea.

P. Of what length is it from east to west?

T. It measures about seventy miles.

P. Of what breadth is it in that part which lies nearest to Devonshire?

T. About forty miles.

N°. 2.

F

P. Of

4. The NATURAL BEAUTIES of

P. Of what breadth is it from Mountbay to St. Ives, where 'tis narrowest?

T. There, indeed, it is but very little more than five miles.

P. Of what circumference is it?

T. By some it is computed only at 150 miles; but by others, it is said, on account of its unequal form, to be near 238.

P. How many acres does it contain?

T. About 960,000; but, in king Edward the first's time, it contained 1,500,000; from whence it is conjectured, that the Scilly-Islands were once a part of it, tho' not at present, they being since divided from it by the sea, which for that reason is called the Lioness.

P. What are the bounds of Falmouth Harbour only?

T. As it runs so very irregularly, and branches itself out into so many small parts, it measures (according to the computation of the inhabitants of Falmouth and Truro) 220 miles only, but by admeasurement, it is no less than 282.

P. What account can you give me of its particular air?

T. It is very sharp and cutting; and by consequence, very healthful to the natives. Hard frosts, however, of any duration, very seldom

seldom happen there ; neither does the snow lie long upon the ground.

P. How comes that to pass, since the air, you say, is so very bleak ?

T. Through the vicinity of the sea, which on three of its sides, is a guard against them.

P. Are they not frequently exposed, however, to what they call Flaws of wind ?

T. Yes ; and sometimes they prove not only very boisterous, but very fatal in their consequences ; tho' the inhabitants are very seldom afflicted, thro' their means, with any very malignant or infectious diseases.

P. From whence are those casual winds termed Flaws.

T. In the Cornish vocabulary that term signifies (to cut) from whence we may conclude with very just grounds, that it owes its original to the Greek word, *φλαω*, which bears the same sense.

P. Are the seasons there the same as in other parts ?

T. No ; for tho' the summer, generally speaking, is very mild and temperate ; yet the autumnal fruits and the corn-harvest are later there than in any other parts of England ; and the last is very seldom ripe enough for the barn till the feast of St. Michael.

6 The NATURAL BEAUTIES of

P. What account can you give me of its soil?

T. For the most part it is mountainous, very shallow, covered over only with a thin coat of earth, and rocky underneath, which renders it very difficult to be cultivated; and, in dry years, it is scarce worth the husbandman's toil. The valleys, however, yield a profusion of grass; and the land that lies nearest the sea-shore, when improved by a particular sea-weed, called Orewood, mixed with a fat sort of sea-sand, produces very large crops.

P. From whence is that sea-sand formed?

T. From the grating of the shells, which the wash of the sea rolls and dashes against one another.

P. In what condition are those lands which lie at a great distance from the sea-coasts?

T. They lie waste and open; the earth, in those middle parts, is of a blackish hue, and bears little else but heath, and spiry grass, fit only for breeding of young cattle.

P. Which are its principal rivers?

T. The Tamar, the Camel and the Fale.

P. What course does the Tamar take?

T. A

T. A very long one from north to south, and is the boundary between the two countie of Cornwall and Devonshire.

P. Where does it empty itself?

T. Into Plymouth sound.

P. What course does the Camel run, and what does it form?

T. From south to north, thro' Camelford, and forms Padstow haven.

P. Where does it discharge itself?

T. Into the Bristol Channel.

P. What course does the Fale take, and what does it form?

T. From north to South, in the narrow part of the county, and forms the haven of Falmouth.*

P. Where does that discharge its waters?

T. Into St. George's Channel.

P. What is the river Tamar peculiarly remarkable for?

T. Its excellent falmon.

* Falmouth is so called from its being situated on the mouth of the Fale, and Camelford receives its name from the river Camel, that runs through it; and this is to be a general observation for all places and towns that terminate in mouth and ford.

8 The NATURAL BEAUTIES of

P. With what fish do the other bays and rivers abound ?

T. For the greatest part with such as are common to other countries ; such as trout, lobsters, oysters, plaice, soals, &c. But what the inhabitants of this country reap the most advantage from are their pilchards, called the Spanish Capon.

P. From whence do they derive that name ?

T. From the Spaniards serving these fish up, drest with oil and lemon, as a most delicious dish.

P. What is the particular time of their swarming on these coasts ?

T. From July to November ; at which time they appear in such quantities as is almost incredible.

P. Give me a particular account of the extraordinary trade that is carried on in the pilchard fishery ?

T. There is no branch of business so considerable in this county as this, that of the stannary only excepted. In such prodigious shoals do the pilchards frequently apply to the southern parts of the Cornish coast, that the people in the inland, mountainous parts, make it their business, during the proper season, to watch their arrival, by which means

CORNWALL.

the gentlemen concerned in that fishery are prepared to take them in their seans, or large nets, which extend some thousands of feet in length, and take in a large circumference of the sea.

P. What quantity of these fish have been taken at one draught?

T. I have been credibly informed full 4000 barrels, in each of which were contained 4000 pilchards; the total amount therefore was consequently 16,000,000.

P. How are they for the generality disposed of?

T. Notwithstanding it must be allowed (whether drest the Spanish or our own way) that they are a very dainty dish; yet but a small quantity of them are consumed at home. For the Cornish merchants export the greatest part of them to foreign markets, for which they fit them by fuming, pressing, and pickling. They are salted but not gutted, the entrails being reckoned the most delicious part; and after they have been piled in large heaps in a cellar for nine or ten days together, and gently pressed by stone-weights to drain off the superfluous moisture of blood and salt, they are barrelled up with pickle for

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for France, but without it, for Spain, Italy, and other hotter countries.

P. What shell-fish in particular are found on the south coast of Cornwall?

T. Large quantities of such small ones as afford that excellent tint, called the Tyrian dye.

P. In what part is that particular matter contained?

T. In a small cystus or bag, which appears like a part of the intestines.

P. What quantity of such matter may there be in one of them, and how is it taken out?

T. It is pricked out with the head of a pin, and the quantity of it cannot by consequence be very considerable; let but what is so taken out, however, be spread on a piece of fine linnen, it will, in a day or two, begin to appear of a pale, reddish colour; when the linnen is washed the first time, it is heightened into a palish purple; every washing, after, renders the colour still more intensely strong and vivid; and when once confirmed, it is not in the least subject either to fade or to decay.

P. What are to be found upon the rocks in divers parts of this coast?

T. Great

T. Great numbers of those animals, which are reckoned of the Polypus-kind. These stick close to the rock on a broad base, and have the faculty or power of unfolding, or contracting the upper parts, whenever 'tis convenient.

P. What do they resemble when they are expanded?

T. They appear very much like an anemone, when 'tis full-blown; for they consist of a great number of internal parts, which resemble the leaves of that flower, but plainly shew that they have an animal motion.

P. Wherein is that motion visible?

T. If you offer to touch them, they will instantly be all contracted within, and covered with the external pouch, or case, which is very thick and substantial.

P. Give me an account of that sea-polypus in particular, which was some time since taken in the rocky cliffs at St. Agnes, which so remarkably claimed the attention of the curious.

T. It consisted of a small body, about the bigness of the palm of one's hand, to which was annexed a hollow pouch, and on the middle part of the body was a curious beak, or bill, about an inch and an half long.

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long, and three quarters of an inch wide of a roundish form, in colour like that of a tortoise, and curved in some measure like a parrot's bill. From the body there proceeded eight legs, at an equal distance to all outward appearance, from each other about an inch and a quarter wide at the body and thirty inches long or thereabouts, of a tapering form, terminating in a point at the extremity. The legs were of a fleshy and membraneous substance, and thick set with small pouches, or holes (the largest about half an inch wide) gradually diminishing towards the extremity, in each leg.

P. Of what particular use were those holes in its legs, and how many of them were there in each leg?

T. They seemed destined to answer the end of gills in common fish, and there were no less than thirty or forty in each leg.

P. In what posture was this extraordinary sea-animal when first found?

T. Its legs were all contracted and enclosed in the pouch, or loose bag, on one side of the body, and it lay seemingly asleep.

P. How did it appear, after it was struck and disturbed?

T. I

T. It expanded its legs with great violence, and put itself (as it were) in a posture of defence; but by repeated blows it was subdued.

P. Is there no other extraordinary fish to be met with on the Cornish coast?

T. Yes; a curious kind of Bivalve fish, commonly called the Pholas, or what ought rather, in the opinion of the Virtuosi, to be called the *Piscis terebrans*.

P. Why so?

T. Because it has a peculiar faculty, or marvellous power of boring its way into the crevices of the rocky part of the coast.

P. In what manner does this surprizing creature subsist?

T. It leads a very solitary life, and resides from its infancy to its last moment, altogether within the hole it makes in the stone for its reception.

P. Of what compass may the hole be that this creature thus bores at first?

T. In some, it does not exceed the tenth part of an inch; but, by degrees, it makes its way into the stone, about eighteen or twenty inches from the surface, and grows itself in proportion; till at last, it is three or four inches long, and an inch at least thick.

P. Is the fish always as big as the hole?

T. Yes,

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T. Yes, exactly; and for that reason must be the frustrum of a cone.

P. By what instrument does it hollow the stone?

T. In all probability by its shell; for the fore-part of it, on each side, is beset with sharp-edged protuberances, like those of a rasp, and fitted to cut away the stone; and this is still the more likely, as the figure of the hole is always exactly the same with that of the shell, and the hole is so nearly the same of the shell, that there is but very little room for its expansion, as 'tis absolutely necessary it should do to a small distance.

P. What occasion is there for such an expansion?

T. The reason is evident; for this projects a fleshy substance of a circular form on the hinder-part, and, when full grown, is the length of two or three inches.

P. For what purpose do you imagine, that Nature has supplied it with that fleshy substance?

T. It is destined, in all probability, to be cast in the salt-water, and throw it out again at pleasure.

P. By what name is this part of the fish distinguished?

T.

T. By its proboscis. This, however, must, doubtless, be a misnomer, because of its situation in the posterior part of the creature.

P. Is there any thing more peculiarly remarkable in these fish?

T. Yes; for notwithstanding great numbers of them penetrate into one stone, and so go on, as it were, in a very social manner; yet each keeps constantly to its own particular entrum, or cavern, without the least infringement on its neighbour, though they come so close, that one may almost see through the thin partition.

P. Have you any thing still to add, in regard to the large and deep caverns of the rocky cliffs in some parts of the Cornish shore, that is truly worth the attention of the curious?

T. Yes; for swallows have been found in the midst of them, and dragged out, notwithstanding such caverns, or deep holes, are below high-water-mark. This is attested for fact by several of the inhabitants of Falmouth, whose veracity is not to be doubted.

P. Have you any particular historians, that confirm the truth of this assertion?

T. Yes; one Richard Carew, who wrote above 200 years ago, has these words: "In the west part of Cornwall, during the win-

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ter-season, swallows are found sitting in old deepe tynne-workes, and holes of the sea-cliffes." To this he adds, the well known account given of them by Olaus Magnus, who assures his readers, " that they are found in winter-time under water, among the reeds in the lakes of Norway, &c. congealed (as ice were) in clusters, which resolve, and the frozen swallows revive by the warmth of a gentle fire.

P. What cattle have they peculiar to this county?

T. Though they have all the various kinds of tame cattle that are to be met with in other counties; yet their Sheep, whilst their lands lay open and uncultivated, were not only very small, but their wool was so remarkably coarse that it was commonly called Cornish hair; however, since their lands have been properly manured, their Sheep are in no respect inferior to those in other counties, as to the size or fineness of staples, but much superior to most, in regard to the soundness of their flesh, and the sweetness of their taste. These Sheep, for the most part, indeed, have no horns; yet their wool, though less in quantity, is much finer than those that have

P. O

P. Of what stature are their cows and oxen?

T. For the generality, remarkably small; but then their flesh is very sweet and juicy; and great numbers of them are reared for slaughter; as the butchers there frequently meet with good markets for victualling of ships, and sometimes export them to foreign parts.

P. With what cattle do the farmers, for the generality, plow their lands?

T. With their oxen, and not their horses.

P. What sort of horses have they?

T. They likewise are but low of stature, are bred hard, and fed but very coarsely; they travel, however, extremely well, and are very serviceable in that mountainous country. They have spirit enough, naturally, it is true, but then by hard labour, when they are young, that is to say, by carrying heavy loads of sand or tillage, they are brought soon off from their mettle, and become dull and sluggish.

P. Have they no mules among them?

T. Yes; numbers; and they are deservedly made use of as much, if not more than horses.

P. Why so?

G 2

T. Because

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T. Because they are beasts of burthen, will fare very hard, and are, for the most part, free from all disorders, and long-lived,

P. What deer have they in this county?

T. None but those of the fallow-kind in particular parks, except it be some few red deer, that are strays from Devonshire.

P. How do the gentlemen there, who are sportsmen, find out sufficient diversion?

T. Some gentlemen, who are possessed of black cattle, let them run wild, and invite their friends to hunt them down; but they would never want for sport, if that expedient was not so frequently practised; for there are great numbers of otters, badgers, martens and foxes, which harbour in the cliffs near the sea-side, which create sport enough in connoissance.

P. What fowl have they in this county?

T. They have plenty of sea-fowl, woodcocks, and other land-fowl: but the most remarkable and peculiar to their county is the *Pyracorax*, or Cornish cough, which is a voracious kind of a raven, and about the same size, with red feet, and a red bill, which breeds on the coast, between the Land's-end and the Lizard-point. This bird is such a thief

That if he be kept tame, and is full fed, he will carry away knives and forks, spoons, rings, and even money, either silver or gold, left in his way, and conceal them so as they shall never more be found. To this bad faculty of pilfering, we must add another, much worse, and sometimes of more fatal consequence; for he is a perfect incendiary, will steal away fire-brands, or lighted candles, and by hiding them in corn, hay, or thatch, he will set houses and barns on fire.

P. What fruit and herbs have they in this county?

T. They are much the same with those of other counties, tho' not altogether so plentiful amongst the common people. As to the latter, they have some, either not to be met with at all, or not in such plenty at least, in any other county throughout the whole kingdom of Great Britain.

P. Give me a catalogue of them.

T. In the first place, there is the small creeping round-leav'd bastard chickweed, which is found on moist banks in divers places.

2. The marsh-asparagus, or perage, which is found growing on the cliffs at the Lizard-point.

3. Round-leav'd marsh, and St. Peter's wort in abundance, near the Land's-end.

4. The tender ivy-leav'd bell-flower, which grows on moist and watery banks; and the least marsh centaury, which is found on a rotten, boggy ground, between St. Ives and Penzance.

5. The fir-leav'd heath, with many flowers; the great yellow-marsh eye-bright; the small sea-crane's-bill with betony leaves; the sea-cotton weed; the creeping cock's-foot; the rupture wort; the lesser autumnal star-jacinth, and English sea-peas. To these may be added a sort of grain, sown in plenty towards the farther end of this county; that is to say, naked oats, called pile-corn, from its being naturally stripped of its husk, which the common oat is covered. This grain in particular is so much valued, that it bears a better price than wheat itself. They have, moreover, a profusion of sea-herbs, namely, camphire, sea-holly, eringo, rose-lis, and palamontain, with many odoriferous herbs; such as marjoram, rosemary, &c. &c. which grow wild upon the cliffs. I shall close this account with one remark, and that is, no sweet-brier will naturally grow in this county.

P. For what in particular is this county more famous than any other part of the whole habitable world?

T. It is peculiarly remarkable, not only for the various innate good qualities of its inhabitants, but on account of those immense treasures that lie below the surface of its earth.

P. Let us hear the extraordinary character which you intimate that the natives bear?

T. The people in general are well-bred; and the gentry are so sociable and respectful to one another, that they intermarry, for the generality, among themselves; from whence arose the old proverb, that all the Cornish men are Cousins. Those amongst them that have had a liberal education are, for the most part, of a free and generous disposition; are very facetious and inquisitive; and what redounds still more to their honour, they are remarkably humane and benevolent to all their fellow-creatures, when under any distress. The Cornish people, moreover, are no ways inferior to the modern English in point of genius; are as great encouragers of arts and sciences, and take as much delight in philosophical researches, as the most curious Virtuosi in London. As to mechanic arts, it must

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must be allowed, that they excel them; for not only their natural genius, but their daily avocations give them a particular bias to all kinds of study and invention. In a word, their character, in regard to trade and commerce in general, is so well known to all the world, that it would be perfectly needless, if not impertinent, to mention any thing in particular on those topics. And as we have just mentioned their strength of genius, it is highly requisite, that we should take notice of their graceful stature, strength and activity of body; and peculiar skill in the art of wrestling, hurling, and divers other manly exercises and recreations.

P. Can you produce any particular instances of their extraordinary strength of body?

T. Yes; two (amongst many others that might be produced) that are peculiarly remarkable, namely, one John Bray, who carried six bushels of meak, of fifteen gallons to the bushel, and the miller, a man of twenty-four years of age, on his back at the same time; also one John Roman, who carried at one time, the whole carcase of an ox.

P. What language is spoken by the inhabitants of this county?

T. In

T. In some few parishes, indeed, near the Land's-end, there is a corrupt dialect of the Cornish tongue even still retained ; but the gentry, and other people of fashion, talk as politely, and as pure English as the natives of London.

P. Wherein does it appear, that they have more immense riches under the surface of the earth than any other county ?

T. By their numerous and inestimable mines, both of copper and tin ; of the truth of which the two following instances (amongst the many others that might be produced) will, we presume, be ample conviction. In the first place, we are assured by a certain historian of unquestionable veracity, that there was one mine in particular, in Cornwall, that produced tin of more value in one year, than ever the famous mountain of Potosi did of gold within the same time ; and in the next, that one gentleman, a cotemporary of his, was possessed of a tin-mine at St. Agnes, for which he was offered 100 l. per diem for six months successively ; but he turned a deaf ear to the proposal, as he imagined it fell infinitely short of its intrinsic value.

P. Are

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P. Are there not in this county divers rocks and stones of such a stupendous nature, as to claim the attention of the most curious?

T. Yes, several; and the first and most conspicuous is that rock which is distinguished by the name of Wring cheese.

P. Of what does it principally consist?

T. Of a groupe of rocks, which are the just objects of admiration. On the top stone there was once two regular basons; but part of one of them has since been broken off. This stone, I am told, was a Logan, or Rocking-stone, which before the misfortune that then attended it, might with all the ease imaginable, be moved to and fro with nothing but a pole; but at present, indeed, a great part of that weight, which kept it on a point is taken away. The whole heap consists of about thirty feet. As the upper part is of so great a weight, and the under is so very slender, it is very surprizing, that such an ill-grounded pile could resist the storms of such a situation from one age to another.

P. Are there not some people of opinion, that this is an artificial building of large flat stones, piled up, with the utmost care and precaution one upon another, and raised to that

at height which we now see it, by dint of man skill and indefatigable labour?

T. Though, 'tis true, that some historians have insisted the whole to be the effect of art only; yet there are others, of equal, if not greater authority, who strenuously maintain the contrary opinion, and peremptorily insist, that 'tis a perfect natural crag; and doubtless must be so; since there are not only several heaps of stone on the same hill, but on another likewise at about a mile distant, of the same fabric, called Kell-Mars; though not so high, indeed, as the former; and 'tis an improbable conjecture, that the stones which surrounded it, and concealed its grandeur, were removed by the Druids.

P. What account does Mr. Nordon give of this in his description of this country.

T. He insists, that they were left in this position at the universal Deluge, by the force of the water, which deprived them of the earth, and other means of support; and that they remain thus depending, without the least aid or assistance of any human hand whatsoever.

P. What are Mr. Borlase's sentiments concerning them?

T. He

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T. He imagines, that it may be justly deemed a rock-deity.

P. On what grounds does he support the conjecture?

T. On its having rock-basons, in the first place; in the next, on the uppermost stone of it being a Rocking-stone; then again, on its structure being so miraculously well poised, and lastly on the great elevation of the group, both which last-mentioned particulars might (as he conceives) be intended, and 'tis highly probable that his notion is just, to express the majesty and grandeur of the Supreme Being. And he farther imagines, that since the rock-basons shew it to be a customary thing for persons to get upon the top of this Karn or heap of rocks; it might serve with equal probability, for the Druids, or priests, as a very commodious place to make their harangues on, and to keep the populace in awe by their solemn predictions thereon of future events.

P. Is there any other kind of stone-deity besides that last-mentioned in the county of Cornwall, or in the parts adjacent?

T. Yes; there is one, which is commonly known both in Cornwall and Scilly, by the name of Tolmen, that is to say, the hole of a stone.

stone; being a large, orbicular stone, supported by two others, betwixt which there is a free passage.

P. How many of these Tolmên are there?

T. There are two of them in the Scilly-Islands; but that which is the most stupendous, and the justest object of admiration, is situate in the parish of Constantine in Cornwall.

P. Pray, give me then a particular description of this last.

T. It is one vast, oval pebble, placed on the points of two natural rocks; insomuch that a man may creep under the great one, between its supporters, through a passage, three feet wide, and three feet high.

P. Of what diameter is this stone?

T. Thirty three feet, due north and south.

P. Of what depth is it?

T. Fourteen feet six inches.

P. Of what width is it?

T. Eighteen feet six inches from east to west.

P. Of what circumference?

T. Ninety seven feet.

P. How is the top of it wrought, and by what means do you ascend it?

T. You ascend it by a ladder; and when you come to examine it, you will find it

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worked

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worked into basons, much like an imperfect honey-comb. That which is larger than all the rest, is at the south end, and about seven feet in length; that at the north is but about five; some are not above a foot; others are still smaller; their sides and shape are irregular.

P. How do these several basons discharge their waters?

T. Most of them into the principal ones; but those near the brim of the stone have little channels, which discharge the water they collect over the sides of the Tolmèn, and the flat rocks, which lie underneath, receive the droppings into basons that are cut on their surfaces.

P. For what is this stone peculiarly remarkable?

T. In the first place, for its marvellous position, and in the next, for its extraordinary size.

P. Wherein is its position so very wonderful?

T. Though the slender part of it is almost semi-circular; yet it rests on two large rocks, and only touches the two under-stones, as it were, on their points.

P. Do

P. Do you imagine this huge stone was ever removed from the place where it was first formed?

T. I do not; but this I firmly believe, that it has been cleared from the rest of the rock, and shaped by art, in some degree, in order to keep it in proper poize.

P. What appearance does it make at present?

T. A very advantageous one; for it shews itself in a very surprising manner at several miles distance.

P. What is there in the area below this stone?

T. Several large rocks, which have, doubtless, been split and divided; but whether thrown down from the sides of the Tolmên or not, is very uncertain; but this is agreed on by all historians, that not only the Tolmên in Cornwall above-mentioned, but those likewise in the island of Scilly, rest on supporters, and never touch the earth.

P. Was not this particular circumstance the effect of art and contrivance?

T. In all probability it was; for it was an established principle of the antient Druids, that if any thing sacred once happened to touch the ground, it was in some degree polluted

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and prophaned ; and for that reason, they ordered matters so, that these Deities of theirs should rest on the pure rock, to prevent them from defilement.

P. As you have given me a full and satisfactory account of these Tolmêns, let me know what other rude reliques of nature there are in this county that are the just objects of admiration.

T. That which is the most curious and astonishing is the Logan, or Rocking-stone: some of these, indeed, are artificial, and consequently foreign to the question ; but in the parish of St. Levin, there is a very remarkable promontory, called Castle Treryn. This cape consists of three distinct groupes of rocks. On the top of the middle group, which is somewhat difficult of access, there is one of these Rocking-stones, which may very well be reckoned amongst the wonders of the world.

P. Of what dimensions, pray, may that particular Logan be ?

T. The solid content, by a very exact computation, amounted to ninety five tons ; the two inclined sides whereof bear some resemblance to the two roofs of a house, meeting in a kind of obtuse ridge upon the top.

The

The lower part of the stone is a large, plain base, near the middle of which a small part projects, and on that it rests.

P. Of what form is that part, and how many inches in diameter?

T. It seems to be of a circular form, and scarce twenty inches round. The lower part of this likewise is somewhat convexed, by means whereof, as it was equally poised on this part, it became moveable with ease upon the large stone below, the position of which was the most astonishing thing of all; for the surface whereon the Logan rested was considerably inclined. At first sight, therefore, it seems, as if the Logan might with ease be heaved off, but it cannot be so in fact; for no one person, how strong soever he may be, can move it up and down above an inch.

P. Of what height is it from the ground?

T. So high, that no one who sees it, can conceive by what means it could possibly be lifted up to the place whereon it rests. This stone, in short, makes a natural part of the crag, whereon it now stands, and to which it has belonged, in all probability, for many ages.

P. Are there no other of these Logan, or Rocking-stones, than that last-mentioned?

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T. Yes,

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T. Yes, several, one in particular in the large heap of rocks, called Bosworlas-Lehan in the parish of St. Ius Penwith : There is another in the island of St. Agnes, in Scilly, and there was a third in the parish of Sithney, called Mén-amber, which tho' eleven feet long from east to west, four feet deep, and six feet wide, a little child, as I am credibly informed, could instantly move it, the top-stone being so exactly poised.

P. Is it not then standing at present ?

T. No ; for one Shrubfall, a puritanical governor of Pendennis, in the days of old Oliver, the Protector, in a fit of fiery zeal, caused it to be undermined, and demolished, to the great grief of the country.

P. From whence do these Rocking-stones derive their name of Logan ?

T. Mr. Bosfale ingeniously acknowledges, that he does not rightly understand the meaning of it. For by some, 'tis said to signify a pit, or hollow of the hand, and in such hollows, this moving-stone is frequently found ; but by others, it is interpreted, bewitching ; the singular property of this stone seeming the effect of witchcraft ; but which of the two is most preferable, he is at a loss to determine.

P. As

P. As divers authors imagine, that the disposition of these stones was the effect of art and contrivance, are there any just grounds, think you, for such a conjecture?

T. Yes, doubtless, there are; for 'tis highly probable, that the Druids, who pretended so much to the art of magic, the sole intention of which is to delude the populace, observing the uncommon property in the natural Rocking-stones, soon found out ways and means to palm it on the public as an occasional miracle; and there is no manner of doubt to be made of it, but that where they had no natural, they made artificial ones, and honoured them with a formal consecration.

They pretended, in the next place, that they were inhabited by Spirits; and 'tis highly probable, that they insisted upon this motion, as a convincing argument, that those Spirits made them their favourite habitations, and places of recess, by which means they became idols. For it is a general observation, that 'tis the business of all such as make use of pious frauds, to encrease private gain, and to establish an ill-grounded authority by deluding the illiterate vulgar under the pretence of a new commission.

P. As

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P. As you have now given me a satisfactory account of what is obvious to the eye upon the surface of the earth, pray tell me what curiosities are to be met with in the bowels of it?

T. Tho' there are divers sort of stone and metals peculiar to this county; yet the Moor-stone is the chief, and most worthy the attention of the curious.

P. From whence does it derive its name, and from whence is it principally dug?

T. It is so called from its being found in swampy, moorish ground.

P. What do you mean by a swampy, moorish ground?

T. Not such lands as are low and marshy, but such as are high and mountainous; as for instance, Dartmoor in Devonshire is the most mountainous part of it, and the highest lands in this county are likewise called Moors; and from hence it is, that what is here called Moor-stone is always dug out of such high-lands as I have been talking of.

P. Where are the finest Moor-stones to be met with?

T. In the famous rock, called Kernbrey, near Redruth.

P. To

P. To what uses are they principally set
art?

T. They are converted into large posterns,
and square pillars of an extraordinary length;
and are peculiarly fit for large mill-stones.

P. What is the natural composition of this
stone, and wherein does it principally consist?

T. It strikes the eye in the most agreeable
manner, and consists, for the most part, of a
whitish, granulated marble, interspersed and
variegated with a kind of black and yellow
matter, which has the appearance of tinsel
and tin-glass, and glitters very agreeably in the
sun-beams; there is one misfortune, however,
and that no very small one, which attends it;
namely, the weather has too soon an influ-
ence over it; and tho' it gives a glorious as-
pect to any buildings, when newly erected;
yet the beauty of it soon fades, and it makes
out a sad figure in old ones.

P. Why so?

T. Because, notwithstanding it is prodigi-
ously hard at first, by its imbibing salts, and
other corrosive matters from the air, it will
change its colour, and firm consistence in a
short time, and lose all its original charms.

P. What

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P. What appearance does this stone make when 'tis artfully polished, and to what use is it peculiarly employed?

T. It then appears much more splendid and beautiful than any thing of the marble kind, and makes the richest furniture of tables, chimney-pieces, &c. In short, it looks altogether as agreeable as the Egyptian granite.

P. As this stone is excessively hard, is it not attended with a considerable expence, to have it polished?

T. Yes; 'tis very chargeable; for you cannot have a square inch polished under 2s. 6d. sterling.

P. Now, in regard to the Cornish-mines, of what metals do they principally consist?

T. Of two kinds; namely, one of Tin, and another of Copper. The former are very numerous, and for the generality very rich in ore; and for that reason, as I have before observed, this county is more famous than any other part of the habitable world. The latter, tho' not, indeed, so large as the former, are very rich.

P. Are there no silver or gold mines in this county?

T. There

T. There has been, 'tis true, a small mat-
of both found here, but no quantity wor-
of notice.

P. Is there nothing intermixt with these
stalline ores?

T. Yes; large quantities both of Mundic
and Arsenic.

P. What is the colour and quality of the
Mundic?

T. 'Tis of a yellowish cast, and produces
good Copper as any in Swedeland.

P. What is the nature and quality of the
water that runs from it?

T. 'Tis a speedy cure for any wounds be-
'tis burnt; but afterwards, 'tis of a poi-
sonous nature, and ought to be carefully
washed away.

P. What is the nature and quality of the
Arsenic with which such ore is intermixed?

T. That likewise is of as poisonous a na-
ture as the former.

P. How many sorts of Tin-works are there?

T. Two; on account of the different
ways in which the Tin appears.

P. In what form does it first appear?

T. In the form of stones, or pebbles, and
much like common stones, that they can
easily be distinguished from them by their
weight;

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weight; for upon the supposition that the specific gravity of pure Tin is 7, that of common is $2\frac{1}{2}$; but that of Tin-pebbles is for the most part $3\frac{1}{2}$; sometimes 4 and $4\frac{1}{2}$, and the best 5.

P. Where are they most likely to be found?

T. Near a stream of water; they are sometimes, indeed, to be met with on the surface of the earth, but for the general they are generated within the earth, at various depths, namely, eight, twelve, or sometimes twenty feet from the surface.

P. Are not these very difficult to be procured?

T. Yes; very hard labour is indispensable necessary in digging away the earth, and in producing artificial streams of water by power engines.

P. What is the method of procuring Tin commonly called, and where does the large engine stand?

T. It is called stream-work, and the large engine is situate in the road from St. Austles to Penryn.

P. In what form does the second sort of Tin make its appearance?

T. In ore.

P. Of what does that principally consist?

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Nº.

T. Of Tin and earth compounded, and con-
creted into a substance almost as hard as
stone.

P. Of what colour is it?

T. It is for the generality of a dark grey,
purple colour, but sometimes, by reason
of the Mundic, that is intermixt, it appears
a yellowish cast or hue.

P. How and where is this ore generally
found?

T. It is always found in one continued
stratum, or bed, called the Load; and this,
for the generality, is found running through
the solid substance of the hardest rocks.

P. Where is it first perceived?

T. It begins in small veins near the surface,
not above half an inch, or an inch wide at
first; they increase, however, as they run
into larger dimensions, and branch out into
different strata, or beds, and take their course
downwards, for the generality, due east and
west.

P. Of what value are some of these Loads?

T. According to their width and thickness.
Some lumps of this ore are so large, that when
they are drawn on the surface of the earth,
they are worth twenty pounds sterling and
upwards.

N^o. 3.

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P. D^o

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P. Do these stones lie always contiguous one another?

T. No; they sometimes seem to be so entirely broken off, that a man of little or no judgment would instantly conclude, that he had just arrived at the end of it, and would give himself no farther trouble in searching for the remainder.

P. What methods then does the industrious and discreet Tinner take to find out such a remainder?

T. He is no ways discouraged by such a trifling interruption; for he knows, by experience, that by digging at some little distance, on one side, that he shall most assuredly discover, in a short time, that part of the Load, so separated or broken off as above-mentioned; and find, that it will tally so exactly with the other end, as if it had actually been broken off, by some sudden and violent concussion in the rock.

P. Are there not divers other ways and means practised for finding out these Loads of Tin-ore?

T. Yes, several; either by Shoad-stones, by the Virgula divinatoria, or (which is the best and surest method) by digging some few

et into such places of the earth, where there are just grounds to expect it.

P. What do you mean by Shoad-stones?

T. Only such parts of the rock, where such ore abounds broken off, and rolling down the declivities of the mountains, are, by torrents arising from impetuous and heavy rains, and other casualties carried down to a great distance; sometimes two or three miles; to which places a set of people resort to make their observations; and, if possible, by the most judicious researches, to find out the mineral rock to which they originally belonged; and there to discover the Load of ore proposed.

P. What do you mean by the Virgula divinatoria?

T. That is the Nodding-rod, or forked handle-wand, which is carried by the person attempting to make the discovery upright before him in both hands, whilst he walks along, and when he comes over the Load, the Nodding-rod will dip forwards, and by that means indicate where such hidden treasure lies; this method, however, is very precarious, and very seldom answers the end proposed. As the last method, however, is the most natural and surest, that is undertaken by the common people, who, when they have found the be-

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ginning veins, and pursue their labour 'till the Loads become so large, that they can proceed no farther, thro' the expences that must unavoidably attend the prosecution of so laborious an undertaking; and then, in hopes of a suitable reward, make their discoveries to some gentlemen of superior fortune to carry it on with more vigour and resolution.

P. When those gentlemen of fortune have got possession of it, what measures do they take for carrying their scheme into execution?

T. When the labourers have entered deep into the rock, it is frequently flooded by springs, which waters they sometimes drain at a very large expence, either by water-wheels, or fire-engines, and are by such practices enabled to continue their works, and follow the Load in all its rich meanders thro' the bowels of the earth; and sometimes again by Adits, which require, for the generality, an immense sum of money, as well as years to accomplish.

P. What do you mean by an Adit?

T. A subterranean passage, which is carried on from the level of the country, thro' the basis, or body of the mountain.

P. A

P. As you say that these Adits are so expensive, and so long and tedious in their operation, what motives can induce the proprietors to such an undertaking?

T. When once effected, they save all the expence of their water-works and fire-engines fore-mentioned, which amount daily to a very considerable sum.

P. When, by virtue of their various machines, they have raised a large quantity of this ore, what farther measures are taken to bring their work to perfection?

T. Great numbers of poor people are daily employed to break it to pieces, and fit it for the stamping-mills, till at last, by proper processes, it is duly prepared for the smelting-house, where the Tin is made ready for sale.

P. What is the third-form in which Tin appears?

T. In that of Chrystals; for Tin, as well as other metals, being a salt, will, under some circumstances, chrystalize; and for that reason, in divers parts of the mineral rocks, the most perfect, transparent, and beautiful chrystals of pure Tin, without the least intermixture of earth, are frequently found.

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P. As you have given me a satisfactory account of the Tin-mines of this county, proceed to your observations on their Loads of Copper.

T. The Copper-mines here are not only very numerous; but some of them very large and rich in ore; they principally abound where the Tin-mines do, and are frequently found very near them; but tho' they often run a long way together in a parallel, yet 'tis in a contrary direction; and notwithstanding the Copper-ore does not contain so great a quantity of metal in proportion to its bulk as Tin-ore, yet there is no better in any part of the habitable world. And 'tis remarkable, that in some parts of Cornwall, large massy lumps of malleable Copper have been seen in very curious vegetable forms.

P. How is this ore made fit for smelting?

T. There is a large quantity (as has been already observed) of Mundic adhering to it, which workmen are obliged to burn away in very large ovens for that purpose, in order to its purification.

P. Is not Mundic frequently found by itself?

T. Yes, in very large quantities, consisting of small pieces of a cubic form, and of a yellow colour; which notwithstanding one should imagine

imagine from its weight and appearance to be a metallic substance; yet its chief composition consists of earth and sulphur.

P. What does this Mundic, in which the Tin thus lies as in its bed, produce, when 'tis properly purified?

T. Such a large quantity of Lapis caliminarius of which such large quantities of brass is made, that instead of importing that commodity, as annually we were wont to do, to the amount of at least 100,000 l. sterling, we export at present as much at least, if not much more.

P. In what manner are large quantities of Arsenic collected?

T. From the steam of melted Tin-ore, in proper funnels and rooms for that purpose in the Smelting-houses in particular where bellows are employed.

P. What are such Smelting-houses commonly called?

T. Blowing-houses; at present, however, the number of them is but small.

P. What do those rocks which produce such mineral ore principally consist of?

T. Of various kinds of stones, the nature of which is very different one from another; for some are very hard; whilst others are remarkably

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markably soft; some again are exceedingly close and compact; and others consisting of a very thin and curious Lamina, not unlike the leaves of a book; and into which the stone, after it has lain for some considerable time in the air, is again converted.

P. Where is this peculiar stone particularly to be met with?

T. At North-down, and the parts adjacent.

P. Is there nothing of value to be met with in the cavernous parts of those rocks you have been speaking of?

T. Yes; several fine, transparent chrystals, called Cornish Diamonds, because they will cut glass, as real diamonds do, and when artfully polished, strike the eye in a very agreeable manner, and bear a very near resemblance to what is commonly called a Brilliant; for they are formed like a six-sided prism, pointed at the top.

P. Of what length and circumference may some of them be?

T. Five inches long, and about two inches in diameter; but for the most part, indeed, they are less.

P. To what use are they principally employed?

T. To

T. To grotto-works, and other curiosities of the like nature.

P. Are there not some parts in this county where little or nothing of those mineral ores appear?

T. Yes; all those parts which are situate in this side St. Austles, St. Michael's and St. Agnes.

P. Of what then does their natural produce principally consist?

T. They abound principally with rocks of Blue Slate, more particularly towards the south, where divers large quarries of it lie, of which are made the best Slate-tiles that are any where to be met with, and are frequently made use of, not only in divers parts of England, but are exported by the proprietors in large quantities to foreign parts.

P. Are there any particular shells to be met with in the earth or stones of this county?

T. No; none at all, except some few pieces of Magnet, which are very imperfect, and not worthy the attention of the curious.

P. What is peculiarly remarkable in that part of the Cornish shore which lies near St. Agnes?

T. A

T. A very fine sort of earth, which is white as chalk, but of a much softer consistence, and yet not brittle in the least.

P. What is the Bay of St. Ives peculiarly remarkable for?

T. For a prodigious quantity of fine, light sand, which the wind raises into clouds, with which the country, sometimes for a mile or two round about, is (as it were) perfectly overwhelmed. It is very remarkable likewise for its fine black marble pebbles, with which it abounds to that degree, that the streets of St. Ives are paved with them, and as they are, by nature, very smooth and slippery, it is not only somewhat troublesome, but dangerous to walk about the town in rainy weather. There are likewise to be seen, on all the rocks in this part of the coast, a prodigious number of black muscles, which grow in large clusters; as also, a great variety of curious shells, most of which being parti-coloured, strike the eye in the most agreeable manner. At the Land's-End, however, are found some particular sea-shells in greater quantity and variety, and abounding with more colours, than in any other part of the British Coast.

P. To what uses are they peculiarly appropriated?

T. The

T. The poor people in the parts adjacent make it their principal employment to pick them up, and sell them to such as make toys of them, by which means several families get very comfortable subsistence.

P. What is peculiarly remarkable at Mounts Bay?

T. The shore there is paved, as it were, with a rocky stone, of so fine a grain, that it equals any hone, in giving an exquisite edge to a razor.—This, however, is not the principal object of observation; for here is one of the most remarkable mountains in the whole world.

P. Pray give me a particular account of that great curiosity?

T. This mountain is situate near Marazion, and at high-water is wholly furrounded, but at low-water, indeed, there is a neck of dry land, like a cause-way, that joins it to the shore by the town. At the base, it is a mile more in circumference, and rises, tapering, in a very beautiful manner towards a point, to a great height: on the top of it, there is a spacious edifice, belonging to one Sir John St. Albans, particularly remarkable for a chair here called, St. Michaels, in which, if any one's curiosity leads him to sit a-while, he views

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views the perpendicular steepness of the mountain and the rocks and water below, which make a tremendous figure. He that will venture to make the experiment, will find both the strength of his mind, and the steadiness of his head.

P. Of what does that chair consist?

T. Of one large solid rock, the upper parts whereof are covered with earth, which produces a large quantity of grass, herbs, shrubs &c. and give it a very pleasant verdure; the lower parts, however, or basis of the rock lie perfectly naked, and spread themselves out a considerable width all round, especially towards the south, where it is very delightful to observe the numerous loads of Tin that run all about, in small veins, through several parts on the surface, and entering deep into the rock. This mount, in a word, makes a very grand appearance at the distance of three miles from Penzance, and over all the adjacent country.

P. What is peculiarly remarkable on the coast near Helstone?

T. A very famous lake, commonly called Loo-pool, which is near two miles, formed by a conflux of rivulets, and parted from the sea by a wide and strong beach of sand and pebbles.

pebble, through which the waters of the sea and lake are supposed to communicate by percolation; for the waters which run into the lake have no visible discharge, and the waters of the lake are considerably salt, which cannot be well accounted for, if the sea only casually overflowed the beach. In this pool there are abundance of fish of several sorts, but some in particular that are to be met with no where else.

P. Are there not some other rocks peculiarly remarkable in the parts adjacent?

T. Yes, two, called the soapy rocks; the first of which lies not far from Penzance, but the other at five miles distance farther on.

P. From whence do they derive that name?

T. From the earth there which bears a very near resemblance to soap.

P. Has it the properties of that useful commodity?

T. No; for notwithstanding it is smooth and slippery, indeed; yet it will neither lather nor scour like soap.

P. What sort of earth is it then?

T. In some parts of the rock it is exceedingly white and soft; in others 'tis streaked with red; and in others again 'tis of a motley colour.

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P. Where is this peculiar earth to be met with?

T. In the interstices of the stony rock, in divers strata, and that which is the whitest, finest, and smallest part in regard to quantity lies the deepest; the very pebbles of this earth appear to the eye of a saponaceous consistence or smooth pieces of petrified soap.

P. What sort of earth is that which is found in the second soapy rock?

T. There is here much larger quantities of earth than in the former, but then there is no comparison in regard to the colour or fine consistence of it; neither does it appear to the eye so much like soap as the other.

P. To what uses or purposes are these two earths in particular applied?

T. Both are the principal ingredients in the manufacture of British china, which of late years has been very considerably improved.

P. Did this county ever include that of Devon?

T. Yes, formerly; and then was looked upon, not without good grounds, a petty kingdom; for there is an antient history of Great-Britain at this time in being, where the author, in the very title-page, tells us that he proposes to treat distinctly of the four kingdoms.

kingdoms of Great-Britain, viz. the kingdom of Scotland, the kingdom of England, the kingdom of Wales, and the kingdom of Cornwall; all diverse from each other, in respect of their origin, manners, laws and languages.

P. What were the islands of Scilly (formerly a part of this county, tho' now separated from the sea (as has been before hinted) called by the most antient Greek historians?

T. The Cassiterides, from the Greek word *κασσιτερος*, that is to say, Tin; from whence it is evident beyond all contradiction, that those islands, even in the highest antiquity, were famous for their Tin Mines; and as a confirmation of it, there are many authentic accounts extant, not only of the Phœnicians, but other foreign nations resorting to them on that particular score, and carrying on, in the earliest ages of the world, very considerable dealings in that valuable and important article of trade and commerce.

P. What are the peculiar blessings which attend the island of Great-Britain in general, and whereof this county of Cornwall in particular enjoys a larger share than any other county throughout the whole kingdom?

T. An anonymous poet has described the peculiar indulgence of providence thereto, in

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the following impartial and comprehensive
lines, viz.

Nor cold nor heats extremes thy people fear
But gentle seasons turn the peaceful year.
When teeming Nature's careful hand bestows
Her various favours on her num'rous brood,
For thee th' indulgent mother kept the best
Smil'd in thy face, and thus her daughter blest
In thee, my darling isle, shall never cease
The constant joys of happiness and peace;
Whate'er can furnish luxury or use,
Thy sea shall bring thee, or thy land produce



ADDITIONAL



ADDITIONAL

REMARKS.

REMARK I.

THE Cornish method of manufacturing their Tin, which is their principal and most valuable commodity is this. When the ore is brought above-ground in the stone, 'tis broke with hammers, and then carried to the stamping-mills, which prepare it for other mills, in which 'tis ground to powder. After 'tis well washed, and perfectly cleared from the earth, &c. that adheres to it, it is melted at the

K 3 blowing-

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blowing-houses into pigs of about 3 or 4 weight, on each of which is marked the proprietor's name, and the value which is set upon it at the coining-house, where 'tis assayed for that purpose.

R E M. II.

The particular times appointed for such coinage and valuation, are Midsummer and Michaelmas, and for the conveniency of such as are not duly prepared, there is a post-coinage at Lady-day and Christmas; the stamp whereof is the seal of the duchy of Cornwall.

R E M. III.

The Tinnérs are regulated by stannary laws so called from the Latin term Stannum, that is to say, Tin; and the trials of their causes are by juries, returned by the several mayors of the stannary towns; for which purposes courts are held by the lord-warden of the stannaries, who has also a deputy to act in his absence.

R E M. IV.

When all the legal duties are satisfied, the Tinner may send his wares to what market

he thinks most proper, with this restriction only, that in case the king then on the throne, or the then duke of Cornwall shall be inclined to be purchasers, the right of pre-emption is due to them.

R E M. V.

Though the time cannot be absolutely ascertained when these Tin-mines were either first discovered, or when their operations first began; yet it is evident, that they were worked by the Britons in the time of the Romans, and that the Phœnicians had large dealings with the inhabitants of this county for Tin.

R E M. VI.

Though the Saxons, indeed, seemingly neglected these mines; yet the earls of Cornwall, after the Normans came over, were so enriched by their produce, that, from time to time, they granted the Tinnors several very important privileges; and (amongst many more) these that follow, viz.

First, That no Englishman in that duchy should pay custom for exporting Cornish cloth, in consideration of his paying four shillings

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lings for the coinage of every hundred weight of Tin. This privilege was first granted by Edward the Black prince.

Secondly, That the natives shall have the free liberty of taking sand out of the sea, and carrying it to any part of the county, where he can dispose of it to the best advantage; which commodity is principally purchased by the farmers, who live at a considerable distance, and make use of it for manure.

Thirdly, King Charles the First granted them the privilege of trading wherever they pleased, without the least restriction, either within the kingdom, or to foreign parts.

R E M. VII.

The five coinage towns are Lescard, Lestwithiel, Truro, Helston, and Penzance; and the number of the Tinnerns amount at least to 100,000.

R E M. VIII.

Ever since king Edward the Third created his eldest son, the prince of Wales, duke of Cornwall, the eldest sons of the kings of England have had that title, who not only appoint

point the sheriffs of this county, but have peculiar royalties and rights in certain actions, the stannaries, wrecks, customs, &c. for the receipt of which revenues several officers are from time to time appointed.

R E M. IX.

This county, though situate in but a corner (as it were) of the kingdom, and at such a wide distance from the royal residence, sends no less than forty-four members to parliament. But how this county came to be indulged with so many parliamentary boroughs, cannot clearly be accounted for, but by supposing it to be owing to the interest of its dukes, who, for many ages, have been heirs to the crown.

R E M. X.

The parliamentary boroughs, each of which return two members to parliament, as the county itself does two, which make up the forty-four, are as follow.

Launceston,

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Launceston,	Penryn,
Leskard,	Tregony,
Lestwithiel,	Bossiney,
Truro,	St. Ives,
Bodmin,	Fowey,
Helston,	St. Germans,
Saltaſhe,	St. Michael,
Camelford,	Newport,
Westlow,	St. Maws,
Eastlow,	Kellington.
Grampound,	

R E M. XL

Launceston (which is situate on the river Tamar, and called likewise Dunhivid from its being built on a down) is distant from London 175 computed, and 208 measured miles. It was first incorporated by king John. It gives the title of viscount to the prince of Wales, of whom the manor is held in fee-farm.

Its markets are on Thursday and Saturday, and its fairs at Whitsuntide, May the 1st, Midsummer, Catherine-tide, and St. Leonards.

Here are two charity-schools, first founded by queen Elizabeth, for forty-eight children of

both sexes, where the girls are taught to knit, sew, and make bone-lace, and are allowed what they earn.

R E M. XII.

Lestkard is 180 computed, and 220 measured miles from London. It was first incorporated by Edward earl of Cornwall, and afterwards by queen Elizabeth.

Its market is on Saturday, and it has seven fairs, viz. Shrove-Monday, Midlent-Monday, the Monday after St. Nicholas, Ascension-day, August 15, September 21, and the Monday after the 6th of December.

It is now one of the largest and best towns in all Cornwall, and has an extraordinary trade, especially in all manufactures of leather.

It has a large church, a very handsome town-hall, and an eminent free school.

R E M. XIII.

Lestwithiel is situate on the Foy or Fowey, 88 computed, and 230 measured miles from London. It is a good town, and has a common goal. The weights and measures for the whole stannary are kept here; as also the county.

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county-courts. It was incorporated by Richard, earl of Cornwall. Its chief trade is in woollen manufacture.

Its market is on Friday, and has three fairs viz. June 29, August 24, and November

R E M. XIV.

Truro is a branch of the port of Falmouth which stands at the conflux of two rivers that almost encompass the town, and forms a large wharf, with a commodious quay for vessels of about 100 ton.

This town is 252 computed, and 274 measured miles from London. It has the benefit of coining Tin. Its chief trade lies in shipping off Tin and Copper ore. It was first incorporated by king John, and afterwards by queen Elizabeth.

The people of this town dress and live elegantly, that the Pride of Truro is become a by-word or proverb in this county. The place gives title of baron to the earl of Radnor.

Its markets are Wednesday and Saturday and it has four fairs, viz. Wednesday after Midlent-Sunday, Wednesday in Whitsun week, November 19, and December 28.

R E M

R E M. XV.

Bodmin, which stands between two hills, almost in the centre of the county, and about 12 miles from each of the two channels, is 195 computed, and 263 measured miles from London.

Its corn and flesh market is on Saturday, and it has three fairs, viz. on St. Paul's day, Wednesday before Whitsuntide, and on the 1st of December. It has besides an annual carnival. It was once the only staple of the county for the yarn-manufacture, but that is now greatly decayed.

The earl of Radnor, to whom it gives the title of viscount, is lord of the manor.

It has a good free-school, partly maintained by the duke of Cornwall, and partly by the corporation.

It was formerly one of the towns for stamping of Tin; but that privilege is now lost.

Near this place there is a well, whose water is remarkable for being much heavier than any other, and for preserving its scent and purity for near twelve months successively.

NUMB. IV.

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Though

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Though this well is called Scarlet-well, yet like the rainbow, it discovers a great variety of colours.

N. B. This ought, indeed, to have been inserted in the natural history, but we chuse rather to introduce it here than wholly to omit it.

Not far from this place likewise are three monumental stones called the Hurlers, which Dr. Stukely makes no doubt are the remains of an antient Druid temple. They stand one down in three circles, and had the name from the superstitious notion of the peasantry thereabouts, that they were once men, but transformed into stones, for diverting themselves on Sundays at their favourite exercise of hurling.

R E M. XVI.

Helston, which is situate on the little river Cober, not far from its influx into the English channel, is 226 computed, and 294 measured miles from London.

It is one of the towns appointed for the collection of Tin.

Its market is on Saturday ; and its fairs on March 13, July 9, August 29, October 28, the second Sunday before St. Thomas's day, and the Saturdays before Midlent-Sunday, Palm-Sunday and Whitsunday.

It was incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and afterwards confirmed by king Charles I.

Its manor belongs to the prince of Wales, as duke of Cornwall.

It has a large church, the spire whereof is ninety feet high, and serves as a sea-mark. King John conferred on this town the following important privileges, viz. to build a guild-hall, to pay no toll, but in the city of London, and to be impleaded no where but in its own borough. At a small distance from the town is a tolerable good harbour, where several of the Tin-ships take in their lading.

R E M. XVII.

Saltshe is 184 computed, and 226 measured miles from London, and but about three miles from Plymouth-dock, to which there is a ferry over the Tamar, called the Crimble-passage.

It is a corporation by charter, granted from Charles II. and the town belongs to the ho-

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nour of Tidmorton-castle, from which it derives several valuable privileges over its haven which is capable of a ship of any burthen: viz a court of admiralty; an annual revenue from its own boats and barges; anchorage and fee from all foreign vessels; the profit of the Crimble-passage, and dragging oysters, except between Candlemas and Easter, with a coroner's inquest, arrests, &c.

The inhabitants trade largely here in malt and beer.

Here is a good church and a free-school.

Its market is on Tuesday, and its fairs on Candlemas and St. James's-day.

R E M. XVIII.

Camelford, situated near the river Camel is 184 computed, and 250 measured miles from London, and has for its arms a camel passing over a ford.

It was incorporated by king Charles I. Its market is on Friday, and it has four fairs, viz on the first Friday after the 10th of March, May 15, July 7, and August 26.

Westlow

R E M. XIX.

Westlow, situate on the west side the river Low, and over-against Eastlow, is 250 miles from London. Its market is on Saturday, and its fair on St. Mark's-day.

The inhabitants here deal principally in orchards.

R E M. XX.

Eastlow, situate on the east side of the river, 250 miles from London, and has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, one on Candlemas, and the other on Michaelmas-day.

R E M. XXI.

Grampound, which has a bridge over the river Fale, is 206 computed, and 251 measured miles from London.

It was made a borough in the reign of Edward III. by whose charter it was endowed with many important privileges, which were confirmed by Henry VIII.

Its market is on Saturday, and its fairs on January 18 and June 11.

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Here is a considerable manufacture of gloves.

R E M. XXII.

Penryn, situate near the entrance of the haven of Falmouth, on one side of Pendennis-castle, is 216 computed, and 264 measured miles from London.

It resembles a town in a wood, by reason of the many gardens and orchards that are in it; it is well watered with rivulets, and has an arm of the sea on each side of it; it has a good custom-house, and a quay.

Its inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in drying and vending pilchards, and in the Newfoundland fishery. Queen Elizabeth founded a free-school here; and king James I. made it first a corporation; for before it was governed by a portreeve only.

Its markets are on Wednesday and Saturday, and its fairs on May 1, July 7, and December 21.

R E M. XXIII.

Tregony, situate on the river Fale, is 205 computed, and 256 measured miles from London.

London. It was formerly governed only by a portreeve, but was made a corporation by king James I.

The principal manufacture here is serge.

Its manor belongs to the antient and now enobled family of the Boscawen's.

Its market is on Saturday, and it has five fairs, viz. Shrove-Tuesday, May 3, July 25, September 2, and November 6.

R E M. XXIV.

Bossiney (alias Tintagel) situate partly on an Isthmus, and partly on an island, which was formerly joined by a draw-bridge to the main-land, is 189 miles from London. It is remarkable for being the birth-place of king Arthur, and for being the seat of the dukes of Cornwall in the time of the Britons.

It has three fairs, viz. July 25, November 11, and October 8, which last is a cattle-fair.

R E M. XXV.

St. Ives (alias St. Ithes) which has a harbour in the Irish channel, is 229 computed, and 278 measured miles from London.

Its

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Its inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in pilchards and cornish slates.

It has twenty or thirty sail of ships belonging to its harbour.

Here is a free-school, founded by king Charles I.

Its manor did lately, if it does not at present, belong to the duke of Bolton.

Its markets are on Wednesday and Saturday, and its fairs on Good-Friday, April 16, May 10, July 20, September 26, and December 13.

R E M. XXVI.

Fowey, or Foy, which has a commodious haven in the English channel, is 192 computed, and 240 measured miles from London.

Its inhabitants are concerned principally in the fishing-trade, but more particularly in pilchards.

Threescore sail of ships (according to Mr. Carew) once belonged to this harbour, of which forty-seven were sent to the siege of Calais; and Camden assures us, that this town quartered a part of the arms of every one of the cinque-ports, with their own, thereby intimating, that at times they had triumphed over them.

them all. And at one time in particular they were so powerful, that they took several of the French men of war.

In the reign of king Edward III. they rescued certain ships of Rye from distress; for which generous action this town was made a member of the Cinque-ports.

King Edward IV. favoured this town so much, that when the French threatened to come up the river and burn it, he caused two towers immediately to be erected for its safety; but he was afterwards so disgusted with the inhabitants for falling upon the French, and insolently cutting off the ears of the king's pursuivants, after a truce proclaimed with Lewis XI. that he took away all their ships and naval stores. In the last Dutch war, there was a chain 200 feet long, drawn cross the river, betwixt the two forts abovementioned, which some say was stolen from them, and carried to Dartmouth.

Its market is on Saturday, and its fairs on Shrove - Tuesday, May - day, and September 16.

Here is a fine old church, a free-school, and an hospital.

Here is likewise a coinage for the Tin.

St. Ger-

R E M. XXVII.

St. Germans, situate on the little river
ver, which abounds with oysters, is 180 com-
puted and 220 measured miles from London.

Its market is on Friday, and its fairs
May 24 and August 1.

It had its name from St. Germanus, a
shop in Burgundy, who resided here, wh-
he came over from France to preach against
the Pelagian heresy.

Though once a bishop's see, it is now only
decayed village. The parish, however, is the
largest in all Cornwall, being twenty miles in
compass, and includes no less than seventeen
several villages. 'Tis generally thought, that
there are not so many gentlemens seats and
lordships in any one parish besides throughout
the whole kingdom.

Its whole trade is fishing in Tiddi'ord
ver, which falls ten miles below the town into
Plymouth harbour.

R E M. XXVIII.

St. Michaels, situate betwixt the Bristol
channel and Truro, is 205 computed, and
261 measured miles from London.

Here

There is no market, but two fairs, one on Monday after Michaelmas, and the other October 28.

Though it is but a mean hamlet, yet 'tis governed by a portreeve, who is annually chosen by a jury of the principal inhabitants of the chief tenants, called deputy-lords of the manor, because they hold lands in the borough.

R E M. XXIX.

Newport, so called for its having a new town built to it, is 209 miles from London. Its market is on Saturday, and its fairs on May-day, St. Margaret's and Holy-rood-day.

This was never incorporated, nor so much fortified a borough. The custom of the manor, however, which belonged once to St. Stephen's priory, but was afterwards given by King Charles II. to Sir William Morrice, in whose family it did lately, if it does not at present remain, is to chuse two persons annually at the lord's court, who are called vicars; and these order their elections, and return the members.

St. Maws,

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R E M. XXX.

St. Maws, near Falmouth, is 261 miles from London, and though a mean hamlet is remarkable for its castle, which was erected at the same time as Pendennis castle, over against it, by king Henry VIII. and is the largest in the kingdom, in order to defend the mouth of that harbour.

The inhabitants chiefly subsist by fishing.

This hamlet, like the former, was never incorporated, nor was ever stiled a borough.

It has no market, no church, chapel, or meeting-house; it has a fair, however, on the Friday after St. Luke.

R E M, XXXI.

Kellington, situate on the river Lamara, is 174 computed, and 199 measured miles from London.

The chief trade of this hamlet is the woollen manufacture.

It is governed by a portreeve, who is chosen every year at the court-leet of the lord of the manor, which belongs to the Rolles's family in Devonshire.

It

CORNWALL. 75

Its market is on Wednesday, and its fairs
on April 23, September 8, and November 1.

R E M. XXXII.

The most remarkable places in this county,
which send no members to parliament, are as
follow, viz.

1 Falmouth,	7 St. Neots,
2 Helford,	8 Padstow,
3 Penzance,	9 Wadbridge,
4 St. Buriens,	10 Redruth,
5 Mount's-bay,	11 Sheviock,
6 Godolphin-hills,	12 Craffhole,

And lastly, Trematon castle.

R E M. XXXIII.

Falmouth is 220 computed, and 282 mea-
sured miles from London.

Here the river Fale runs into the British
channel.

This is a corporation town, and the richest
and most extensive trading one in all the
county. It is considerably larger than any
three of its boroughs that send members.

Its harbour is so commodious, that ships of
the greatest burthen come up to its quay.

N^o. 4.

M

'Tis

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'Tis guarded by the two castles of St. Mary and Pendennis above-mentioned, which have both garrisons; and there is such shelter in the creek belonging to it, that the whole royal navy may ride here safe, let the wind blow from what quarter it will.

The town is well built, and its trade greatly encreased since the establishment of the packets between this place and Portugal and the West-Indies; which not only bring over vast quantities of gold in specie, or in bank on account of the merchants of London; but the Falmouth merchants carry on a trade with the Portugueze in ships of their own, and they have a great share too in the gainful pilchard-trade.

The custom-house for most of the towns in this county is established at this town, where the duties, including those of the other ports, are very considerable.

This town gives title of viscount to the family of Boscawen.

Its market-day is on Thursday, and its fairs on July 27, and October 30.

R E M. XXXIV.

Helford, situate between Falmouth and Market Jew, is a harbour where the Tin ships often take in their lading for London.

Here are several vessels likewise for the pilard-trade.

R E M. XXXV.

Penzance, situate at the bottom of Mount's Bay, ten miles from the Land's-end, is 231 computed, and 290 measured miles from London.

This place was burnt by the Spaniards in 1535, but soon rebuilt, and made one of the borough-towns.

The town lies in the parish of Madern, which is noted for its restorative spring, it being very effectual in curing lameness; as also in removing divers chronic diseases.

Its arms are St. John the Baptist's head in a shield.

It has several ships belonging to it, and carries on a very considerable trade.

Its market is on Thursday, and its fairs on March 5, Trinity Thursday, and Holy Thurs-

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These three fairs were procured them by the ancestors of the earl of Berkley.

This part of the shore abounds so with Lead, Tin, and Copper ore, that the veins thereof appear on the utmost extent of land at low-water-mark.

R E M. XXXVI.

St. Burien is five miles from Penzance, and 296 from London.

It was a prebendary in king William the Conqueror's time, and belonged formerly to the pope; but was afterwards seized by one of the Edwards. It is now, however, an independent deanry, from whose spiritual jurisdiction there is no appeal but directly to the king, and 'tis held in commendam by the bishops of Exeter.

R E M. XXXVII.

Mounts bay, in the British channel, is 290 miles from London, and has a market on Saturday.

It is a gulph near Penzance, and derives its name from an adjacent mount, called by sailors the Cornish mount; but by others St. Michael's mount, from a chapel in the fort which

which stands on the top of the rock, and is dedicated to that archangel.

This bay is a very safe harbour against the south-winds, which makes Penzance the more frequented by shipping.

When the tide is out, the rock seems joined to the main-land; so that the people say, 'tis land and island on the same day.

R E M. XXXVIII.

Godolphin hills, are four miles from Market New, which is 229 computed, and 284 measured miles from London.

This place gives title of earl to the family of that name, who were lords of them in king William the Conqueror's time; and Sir Francis Godolphin, one of their descendants daily employed so many men in the Tin-works that he paid 1000 l. per annum custom to queen Elizabeth, and by his labour and invention together, advanced the Tin-trade so far, that the customs were encreased above 10000 l. annually to her majesty.

Near these hills is a place called Rialton, which abounds with Tin mines, from whence the late earl of Godolphin had first his title, of baron, and afterwards that of viscount.

R E M. XXXIX.

St. Neots, situate between Kellington and Bodmin, has a handsome church, with great many Jewish traditions painted on the glass windows, which 'tis generally supposed they took from the Jews, who traded thither for Tin. The explication of all which is preserved in the public library at Oxford in a book, written in the Cornish tongue.

R E M. XL.

Padstow, situate at the mouth of the Camel, in the Bristol channel, is 194 computed, and 232 measured miles from London.

It lies convenient for trade with Ireland. Its harbour, however, notwithstanding 'tis the best in the northern part of the county, is of difficult and dangerous access, without a skillful pilot.

The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in slate-tiles, all the year round; but in the month of October they employ the best part of their time in fishing for herrings, which then come in shoals up the channel.

The inhabitants are such remarkable lovers of mirth and good cheer, that from thence

comes

CORNWALL. 81.

comes the proverb, or by-word, the good fellowship of Padstow.

Its market is on Saturday. New Island here is remarkable for camphire and sea-fowl.

From this town to St. Ives is a most pleasant fruitful country; the hills on the left abounding with Tin, Copper and Lead, which are all carried to the other shore.

R E M. XLI.

Wadbridge, five miles from Padstow, and 195 from London, is principally remarkable for its large stone bridge over the Camel, which runs to Padstow, some of the arches whereof were founded by the architects on wool-packs, because they could find nothing to erect them on but quicksands.

R E M. XLII.

Redruth, situate between St. Ives and Truro, is 217 miles from London, and a pretty populous place, much resorted to by the Tanners.

R E M. XLIII.

Sheviocke, situate between Eastlow and Saltash, is chiefly remarkable for a monument in

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in its church, of one Dennis a knight, who lies interred there; of whom there is an old tradition amongst the inhabitants, that he undertook to build the church, and his lady a barn; and when both were finished, and the expences summed up, the barn proved to cost three - half - pence more than the church; which might well fall out, since (as our author observes) the barn was a large one, and the church but very small.

R E M. XLIV.

Crafthole, a little to the south of Shevioc, is but a small village, but a great thoroughfare; of which it is merrily said, twelve houses and thirteen cuckolds; but the villagers, when upbraided with it, take the sneer as a very gross affront.

R E M. XLV.

Trematon castle was built before the Norman invasion, and was the residence of the ancient earls of Cornwall; though at present 'tis all in ruins, it stands high, and affords a delightful prospect of Plymouth harbour.

The

R E M. XLVI.

The principal monuments of antiquity in this county are Biscaw-woane, at the Land's-end, and the Hurlers. The former consists of nineteen stones, fixed in a circular form, at the distance of about twelve feet one from the other. The latter consists of a great number of oblong, rough stones, in three circles, on the down, not far from Bodmin. Both which, in all probability, were sepulchral monuments of the antient Britons, notwithstanding the idle imaginations of the superstitious vulgar to the contrary.

R E M. XLVII.

The principal seats in this county are four,
viz.

Mount Edgecumbe,
Anthony,
Arwenack, And
Port Elliot.

Mount Edgecumbe, the fine seat of lord Edgecumbe, is situate near Saltashe and Bram-head, which is a noted sea-mark. It stands in the midst of a park, and has a charming prospect of the winding harbour below it.

This

This seat was greatly admired by king Charles II. when he visited it in his voyage to Plymouth.

Anthony, situate in the parts adjacent, is the seat of the Carews, and remarkable for its noble fish-pond, which lets in the sea.

Arwenack, situate near Penryn, is the seat of the Killigrews, whose ancestor, Sir Peter, in Oliver Cromwell's time, rode from Madrid in Spain, quite thro' France, crossed the sea, and got to London in seven days.

Port Elliot is the noble mansion-house of the Elliot's family, which fronts the river Tiddisford, in its passage through the parish of St. Germain's, to the harbour of Plymouth.

R E M. XLVIII.

Scilly-Islands and rocks, situate in the mid-way between the British and Bristol channels, are between 140 and 150 in number, and thirty miles from the Land's end in Cornwall; to which they are supposed (as we have before hinted) to have been formerly joined, but separated from it, and from each other, by some violent eruption of the sea, which is here between forty and threescore fathom deep.

The

These rocks, called by the Greeks (as has been hinted likewise before) Cassiterides, by Ptolemy the Silures, and by the Dutch sailors Orlings, having been conquered by Athelstan, one of the Saxon kings, have ever since been deemed a part of Cornwall.

The largest and most fruitful of these islands is St. Mary's, notwithstanding it is but nine miles in circumference; tho' Scilly was once reckoned the most considerable.

It has a good harbour and a castle erected by queen Elizabeth.

Though this and some others stand very high, yet they are frequently overflowed at high tides.

Some of these islands bear good corn, and most of them good pasture. They abound with rabbits, cranes, herons, swans, and other water-fowl.

There are several Tin-mines here, for which formerly the Phœnicians, Carthaginians, and the Romans frequented these islands; and the latter sent their criminals to dig in them; but the inhabitants at present reap little or no benefit or advantage from them, being content with bartering what they have for necessaries; for their chief food is fish, and the milk and flesh of their cattle.

These

These islands are so situated, that 'tis no wonder they have proved the destruction of too many lives as well as ships; for notwithstanding all their light-houses, or the skill of their mariners, ships, in the dark of night, and by stress of weather, are in very great danger of running bump-ashore upon Scilly, where they are most assuredly dashed to pieces.

This calls to mind the much lamented fate of Sir Cloudesly Shovel, who, in the admiralship, with three men of war more, running upon these rocks, right afore the wind, in a dark night, on the 22d of October, 1707, was lost, and not one man saved out of all the ships.

'Tis said, that many years ago, eleven sail of merchant-ships, homeward-bound from the southward, and some from Spain, with a great quantity of bullion, &c. met with the like fate in the self-same place. In short, shipwrecks are so frequent here, that some treasure or other often drives ashore, especially in stormy weather: after which the sands are generally covered with country-people, in quest of what the sea throws up, which the sailors call going ashoring; nor are there wanting, at such times, projectors and others, with engines for diving.

THE



THE

Natural Beauties

OF

DEVONSHIRE.

DIALOGUE II.

BETWEEN

TUTOR and PUPIL,

PUPIL,

BY what name was this county
distinguisht in the time of the Ro-
mans?

TUTOR.

As this county was but another portion
of that part of Britain, now called Corn-
N wall,

38 The NATURAL BEAUTIES of

wall, it then bore the denomination of Dunmonium.

P. Has it not, however, received divers appellations since?

T. Yes, for the Cornish-Britons distinguish'd it by the name of Drunan, and the Welsh Britons by that of Duffneynt.

P. Pray, what may be the signification of those terms?

T. Deep valleys or bottoms; and the reason is very obvious; because their habitations for the most part, are erected in those low places.

P. Does it retain those names still?

T. No; for at present it is called Devonshire, or Devonshire.

P. From whence does it derive that new appellation?

T. From the industry of the husbandmen there, who constantly practise the art of Devonshire; that is to say, of paring and burning the surface of their lands, in order the better to cultivate and improve them.

P. How is this county situated?

T. It lies between latitude $50^{\circ} 66'$ and $51^{\circ} 15'$, and between $30^{\circ} 0'$, and $4^{\circ} 40'$, west longitude from London.

P. Of what circumference may it be?

T. Above

T. Above 200 miles; that is to say, about 64 in breadth, and 70 in length.

P. How is this county bounded?

T. On the north by the Severn sea, or Bristol channel; on the east by Somersetshire; on the south by the English channel; and on the west by Cornwall.

P. In what diocese does it lie, and how many acres does it contain?

T. It is situate in the diocese of Exeter, and contains very little less than 1,900,000 acres.

P. What rivers, pray, water this county?

T. It would be needless to enumerate them, but there are more belonging to it than to any other county throughout the whole kingdom of Great Britain.

P. How is the temperature of its air?

T. Mild enough, and very healthful in their valleys or bottoms; but upon their hills it is excessively cold and bleak.

P. How is the soil of it?

T. Very various, for the lower grounds are by nature fertile, yet they are made much more so, by the art and industry of those who have estates in those bottoms: the hills, however, are perfectly barren.

P. What parts of this county are the most pleasant and plentiful?

T. There is great plenty, not only of good corn but fine pasturage for sheep, in the eastern parts of this county, especially where the lands are dry and chally: the southern part however, is more remarkably fruitful and may with as much justice be called the garden of Devonshire, as Italy is universally allowed to be the garden of the world.

P. Have they abundance of fruit in the county?

T. Yes, they have as great a variety of sorts of fruit trees as in any other part of the kingdom whatsoever; but as to their apple trees, there are such numbers of them that several of the copy-hold tenants there discharge their whole rents out of the profit and produce of that commodity only; for they principally employ them in making cyder, for which liquor there is a great call not only at home, but in foreign parts.

P. What home consumption may they have?

T. There are some who peremptorily assert, that no less than ten thousand hogheads of this cyder are sent from this county to London only, one year with another.

P. How

P. How can that possibly be, since there is very little of it to be procur'd in any part of that city, that is perfectly neat.

T. It cannot easily indeed, be absolutely accounted for; but it is very natural to conjecture that since 'tis of a higher spirit, and much more vigorous than the Hereford cyder itself, that it is bought up by the substantial Vintners there, who very artfully, as well as secretly, make use of large quantities of it, together with such ingredients as they judge most proper for that purpose, in order to brew a kind of Claret, which they can easily palm upon such of their customers as have little or no judgment, and pay more regard to the quantity than the quality of what they drink in perfect profusion. Besides, 'tis highly probable, that the best sort of this liquor, which is made at Southam, and the parts adjacent, being kept some considerable time, and duly mang'd may pass better, and with less suspicion, for white-wine; since it has as good at least, if not a better body than white-wine itself in reality.

P. Do they export then any great quantities of it to foreign parts?

N 3

T. Yes,

T. Yes, for such merchants as go long voyages at sea, find it a very serviceable drink in their ships, and for that reason keep in large stores of it; for one ton of cyder we are told, will go as far, if not farther than three of beer; besides, 'tis found by experience to be much more wholesome for their respective crews, especially in hot climates.

P. As you have intimated, Sir, that this country has such a number of rivers belonging to it, how many of them pray are there that are really worthy of notice?

T. Two only, that is to say, the Tamar and the Ex.

P. Where does the former take its rise, and into what place does it discharge its waters?

T. Its source, or fountain lies near Wembury, and runs into the English channel at Plymouth.

P. What course does it take?

T. From north to south.

P. For what is it peculiarly remarkable?

T. It not only separates, or divides this county from Cornwall; but it is famous both for the quantity, as well as the quality of its salmon.

P. Wh

P. What course does the Ex form, and wherein does its waters fall?

T. It forms a course on the same points as the Tamar, and passing by the city of Exeter, disembogues its waters into the same sea.

P. Does this river, as well as the former, abound with salmon?

T. Yes; in the season of their spawning.

P. Have not both of them a great variety of common fish, as well as salmon?

T. Yes; they both have plenty of fish of all denominations; but none are so advantageous to them as the herring and the pilchard.

P. Why so?

T. Because they export them into foreign parts in great quantities; and bring back all sorts of commodities into the county in exchange for them.

P. Are there not divers chalybeate mineral waters found in this county, and where?

T. Yes, several; and they are to be met with in particular at Cleave, Tavistock, Lammerton and Lifton; all which are peculiarly remarkable for their singular service in the removal of divers dangerous and epidemic distempers: But besides these, there is a well, called Laywell, near Brixam upon Torbay, that

that demands the attention of the most inquisitive reader.

P. Can you give me a particular account of it from any authors that have been upon the spot, and have made their particular researches into the nature of it?

T. Yes; from two gentlemen in particular, of undoubted veracity, namely, the celebrated Dr. Oliver, some time since deceased, and Mr. Benjamin Martin, who is now living; each of them have obliged the public with their separate observations thereon, I shall take the liberty for your instruction, as well as amusement, to transcribe them as I found them. The account given by the former I have extracted from Mr. Lowther's abridgment of the Philosophical Transactions, vol. ii. page 305. And that of the latter from his miscellaneous amusements.

“Laywell (says the doctor) is near Torbay, about six feet long, five feet broad, and near six inches deep; which ebbs and flows every hour visibly enough. I am informed 'tis much constant winter and summer; though I am apt to think it moves faster in winter, when the well is fuller, than in summer: Because when I observed it first (in July 1693) I think it flowed somewhat quicker than I found it

ed on my second observation, toward the end of August following; for the water was then considerably shrunk in the well, notwithstanding we had for a fortnight, much rain: and though, when once it began to flow, it performed its flux and reflux in a little more than a minute's time; yet I observed it would stand at its lowest ebb sometimes two or three minutes; so that it ebbed and flowed by my watch about sixteen times in an hour, and sometimes I have been told twenty:—As soon as the water in the well began to rise, I saw a great many bubbles ascend from the bottom; but when the water began to fall, the bubbling immediately ceased. I measured the high and low-water marks, and found them between five and six inches distant; not of perpendicular depth, but as it spread itself on a broad stone, as the sea does on a beach or shore. Though I am apt to think its perpendicular height would be as much, or more in that time, were its out-let dammed up to try an experiment: For as it rises, it runs with a small stream, which is greater or less, according as the water in the well rises and falls.

That it has any communication with the sea is not manifest, nor is the water brackish at all. The whole country adjacent is very hilly

hilly all along the coast, insomuch that from Brixam to the top of the hill is about a mile and half; and the well is about half way up the hill (which hereabout is somewhat uneven and interrupted) and comes out at a small descent yet considerably higher than the surface of the sea.

I tried it with an oaken leaf, as soon as I saw it the first time, but could not find it change colour. I drank of it; 'tis very fresh and pleasant; has no manner of roughness to it, and serves for all manner of uses to the country people in their houses; they also use it in fevers, as their ordinary diet drink, which succeeds mighty well."

To this account of the doctor's, I shall subjoin Mr. Martin's remarks, which he assures us he made on the spot, two days successively, so lately as the year 1751.

"The form of the well now is not square but pearly round, and being raised above the ground with stones, the waters now stand higher and there is about an inch and half difference in the perpendicular; when we observed it there was no irregularity in the time of its ebbing and flowing; for both together constantly happened in six minute's time, or five times in an hour, as we observed by a watch

many hours together, and this not only the waters in the well, but more exactly holes which we caused to be dug in the side of the well; for these holes are constantly filled and emptied by turns, it was very pleasant to see the water rush in through several small passages 'till the hole was filled, which little flood would continue near three minutes, then it would run to ebb, and so continue for something more than three minutes, 'till the hole was empty, and we could see the water run away through the little ducts; in a very short time it returned again, and so on continually without any variation that we could observe, and this was the case in all parts of the ground about the well, as far as we made the experiment: on this account, those little reciprocating ponds or springs, became the common object of play or pastime to the children of the neighbourhood. We formed a design of stopping up the out-lets, in order to see how the water would rise in the well, and accordingly employed a man two hours about it, but to no purpose, there being so many heterogeneous passages by which it goes out. The waters of this well supplies a stream of about five feet wide, and what is very remarkable,

markable, the waters of the whole stream ebbed and flowed with the well about half an inch, as was always seen by the stones in the brook. It was something odd to suppose the waters of this well should come from the sea, since it is very manifest it does not, as is at a very considerable height above the level of the sea, the grounds just above it, on the contrary side, rising very high; and from waters gathered in the subterraneous basins of this hill, proceeds this wonderful reciprocal fountain.

P. What curiosities are to be met with in the several coasts of this county?

T. In the first place, then, 'tis very observable, that though Torbay is but a little petty village, about twelve miles north of Dartmouth; yet its bay, which lies in the British channel, and is about twelve miles compass, is one of the finest roads for shipping that all England can boast of: And as an indisputable proof of its great importance, will not be improper to observe, that this was the general station of our fleets during the whole time that king William's war was carried on with France. And here it was, that his said majesty, when prince of Orange, was landed by admiral Herbert, on the

November, in the memorable year 1688, from the fleet which brought him from Holland, under that admiral's command, whom afterwards he constituted earl of Torrington, as a grateful acknowledgment of his faithful services at that critical conjuncture; and as the happy consequences that attended that expedition are so universally known, it would be altogether needless, if not impertinent to enlarge upon them. It must be confessed, however, that though that road be so highly valuable in itself, and so justly admired, yet still there is one inconvenience that attends it; for a south, or a south-east wind will too frequently oblige our ships to put out from thence to sea, or at least to run into Dartmouth.

Another great curiosity in nature, though fifty miles in the sea, off the north-west coast of Devonshire, is Lundy-island, which is five miles long, and two broad; but is so encompassed with inaccessible rocks, that it has but one entrance into it, and that likewise so remarkably narrow, that two men can scarce go a-breast. The south part of this island, indeed, is indifferently good soil, and such as is not to be complained of; but then the

north part of it is not only, in a great measure, barren, but has a high pyramidal rock, called the Constable, which is the just object of any curious spectator's admiration.

On the coast of this country, there is found in plenty likewise a peculiar rich sand, which proves of singular service to such husbandmen as live at some considerable distance from the shore, and can afford to purchase for the improvement of their poor and low lands; for the remoter their residence is from the sea-side, the commodity advances proportionably in price. The quality of the sand is of so extraordinary a nature, that it renders the most barren land fruitful, and as it were, impregnates the glebe. The curious and inquisitive reader, if he be inclined to pry farther into the innate virtues of this remarkable sand, may be better informed by consulting the Philosophical Transactions N^o 103, which, for brevity's sake, we chuse rather to refer to than transcribe.

Those husbandmen, however, who live at too great a distance from the sea-shore, and whose circumstances are too narrow to purchase a sufficient quantity of that valuable

manure

manure, are reduced to the necessity of using marle, lime, and the the turf of the ground, skinned off, and burnt to ashes; which method of agriculture, is very agreeable to the rule prescribed by Virgil, in his first Georgic.

Sæpe etiam steriles, &c.

Long practice has a sure improvement found,
With kindled fires to burn the barren ground;
When the light stubble to the flames resign'd,
Is driv'n along, and crackles in the wind.

Whether from hence the hollow womb of
earth,

Is warm'd with secret strength for better birth;
Or, when the latent vice is cur'd by fire,
Redundant humours thro' the pores expire;
Or, that the warmth distends the chinks, and
makes

New breathings, whence new nourishment
she takes;

Or, that the heat the gaping ground constrains,
New knits the surface, and new strings the
veins;

Lest soaking show'rs should pierce her secret
seat,

Or freezing Boreas chill her genial heat;
Or scorching suns too violently beat.

DRYDEN.

P. What

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P. What is the principal commodity of this county?

T. Though the inhabitants, it must be allowed, stand in no want of horses, kine, hogs, goats, sheep, or rabbits; yet their principal commodity is fowl, which they enjoy in such a profusion, that their eggs lie thick upon the ground at their season of breeding. To this we shall only add an observation or two, which we imagine somewhat extraordinary, and highly worthy of notice; for, in the first place, we are informed, that notwithstanding the island lies so far in the sea, as has been already mentioned, yet it has divers springs of fine fresh water: and again, the inhabitants insist, whether it be real fact or not we cannot determine, that no venemous creature, of what nature or species soever, will live amongst them.

P. What is the town of Lidford, which stands on the little river Lid, peculiarly remarkable for?

T. For its being pent up with rocks at the bridge there, and for making itself so deep a fall into the ground by incessant working, that the water is scarcely to be seen, or

the murmurs of it to be heard, to the no small astonishment of all strangers who have curiosity enough in them to listen to so uncommon an occurrence.

P. Is there not another phenomenon at about a mile's distance from the bridge, which is still a greater object of admiration than the former?

T. Yes; and that is a cataract, or fall of water, from the height (according to the nearest computation) of about one hundred feet.

P. From whence does this water proceed?

T. From a mill at some considerable distance; and after a course upon a descent of near an hundred feet from the level of the mill, it arrives at the brink of a steep rock; from whence it projects in a very beautiful manner, and striking upon a part of the cliff, by which it is in some measure divided, it falls from thence in a wider cataract to the bottom; where striking the earth with such great violence, as must be acquired in such a prodigious fall, it makes a deep and foaming basin in the ground, from whence it goes in a stream to the river Lid, which comes from between the hills.

This wonderful fall of water fills the air all around at the bottom with such an atmosphere of aqueous particles, that a person finds himself in a mist, as it were, in his approach; and the air is put into such violent agitations, that you can scarcely bear to come, or stand near the place. It is reported, that travellers, who have seen this cataract, have allowed it to equal at least, if not exceed any one they ever met with abroad; and therefore, it is much to be wondered at, that so very great a curiosity, and subject of natural history, should have been passed over in silence, in every edition of Cambden, and even in Magna Britannia itself.

P. Were there not some silver mines discovered formerly in this county?

T. Yes; in the reign of king Henry IV. some few were found in the parish of Beare-Ferris; but they have been long since discontinued, as not answering the expence, that unavoidably attended the search after them.

P. What curiosities are to be met with near Plymouth?

T. In

T. In the first place, a remarkable rock, now called the Haw, a hill between the town and the sea, on the top whereof, which is a remarkable fine plain, there is a most delightful prospect on all sides, and a curious compass for the service of sailors.

We were credibly informed by a gentleman at Plymouth, that in a small island in that harbour, there is found, in the cavernous parts, considerable quantities of that wonderful fossil, called Iseland Crystal, remarkable for its singular property of a double refraction of light.

Not far from Plymouth, just mentioned, the Eddy-stone, a very dangerous rock to sailors; but of late years rendered of very great use, by means of a stately light-house built upon it. At the mouth of the river Devon stands St. Michael's rock, which is several acres in circumference. Dart-moor, so called from the river Dart, which it gives name to, makes the midland part of the western side of this country; it is very high and mountainous; but in the lower parts very dampy and moorish; in other parts very stony and full of stones; in winter time, the roads over it are very difficult to find, and dangerous

dangerous to pass: it affords great quantities of Moor-stone, and some Load-stones, but of an inferior sort.

P. What other curiosities are to be met with near South Moulton, in the forest of Dart-moor, and on that part of the north coast called the Burrows, near Biddeford?

T. Near the former is a quarry of stone of so fine a grain, and so hard, at the same time, that they make, perhaps, the best whet-stones in the kingdom for the finer sort of edge-tools, such as joiners, cabinet-makers &c. use; and indeed great quantities are made and sold for that purpose to London and other places.

In the said forest (first made one by king John) there were formerly many valuable Timber-works. This forest is very extensive, being no less than twenty miles in length, and fourteen in breadth. Every summer it yields pasture for near 100,000 sheep, besides a proportionable number of other cattle. It supplies likewise the north, west, and south with a great variety of little pleasant rivers.

On the Burrows are the greatest quantity of the largest and most beautiful pebbles that are any where to be seen. Indeed, they are regular

regularly veined, and variegated with colours, that it seems, as it were, the work of art. The bank of pebbles is near three miles long, very deep and wide; they are smooth as marble, of an oblong form, and in general, from six to sixteen or twenty inches in diameter the shortest way, and two feet the other, of the largest sort.

P. What is remarkable in regard to the river Isca, otherwise called Isc and Ex?

T. It flows by Exeter and Topsham, with a large stream into the ocean at Exmouth. Its head lies in a foul, barren ground, and rises after a very uncommon manner.

P. Is there not something highly worthy the attention of the curious in some of the hills adjacent to Dart-moor?

T. Yes; on the top of one of them in particular, which is the highest, there is a plain, almost of a circular form, near a mile in diameter, which is full of little springs; and there being no declivity, nor commodious passage for the waters, they frequently well upon the surface of the earth. The perpetuity of which waters (without any regard to the seasons of the year, or the weather) has given occasion for some people to surmise, that they were not derived in the ordinary

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for yielding the best hemp, and that in greater abundance than in any other part of the county.

Though the hills, that are adjacent to Comb-Martin before-mentioned, are incapable, 'tis true, of being cultivated, (as the vales or bottoms are) on account of their being not only rocky, but very steep; yet on the other hand, they have their peculiar advantages, which equal at least, if not far surpass, the profits arising from the industry of the farmer in any other parts: they are impregnated, not only with rich mines of silver, but with tin, lead, iron and copper, with some small mixture of gold and diamonds.

P. As those silver mines, which you have been last speaking of, have for many years last past, been totally neglected, did they ever prove of any real and important service to the crown of England?

T. Yes; 'tis evident, beyond all contradiction, that in former times, they were greatly regarded, and proved very advantageous; for we find, not only several grants made by king Edward III. and other kings for carrying them on with the reservation

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No. 5.

the tenths of the church, but from the records of the Exchequer, it appears what immense sums have been raised from the working them; for in the year 1293, one William de Wymondham was overseer of those works, and by his art and industry, there were then refined out of the lead ore no less than 370 pound weight of fine silver, which King Edward I. gave for a portion with his daughter Eleanor to the count de Barre.

There were refined likewise the very next year 521 pounds weight of silver, which was sent to London, in order to be coined there; and in the year then next ensuing, in which the Derbyshire miners were sent to aid and assist the above-named William de Wymondham, he sent 700 pounds weight of silver more to the mint for the same purpose.

P. Were not those mines, however, afterwards discontinued for some considerable time?

T. Yes; but then in queen Elizabeth's reign they were entered upon again by one Francis Bulmer, a curious artist in the refining way, who got great quantities of silver from them, whereof he ordered two cups, very rich and capacious, to be made, and presented one of them to William Bouchier,

N^o. 5.

P

then

then earl of Bath, and the other to Richard Martin, then lord mayor of London, with proper inscriptions upon them, but too long and tedious to be here recited.

The weight of the former we have no particular account of, but the latter, we are told, weighed 137 ounces.

P. Was not this county, in former ages, very remarkable on account of its Tin-mines?

T. Yes, doubtless; and as an incontestible proof of its being so, there were formerly four stannaries or jurisdictions, and as many stannary-courts and coinage namely, Plimpton, Tavistock, Ashburton, and Chagford.

P. How far did the power of those stannary-courts extend?

T. By these were chosen, from time to time, by the order and direction of the then lord-warden, certain jurates, to meet in a session of parliament at Crockern-Torr, a high hill in the midst of Dartmore.

P. What power had that parliament?

T. It was authorized to make laws touching the estates of the mines and stannaries, a large volume whereof was printed in the reign

of queen Elizabeth, at that time, when the earl of Bedford was lord-warden.

P. What conclusion would you draw from thence?

T. I infer from thence, that the Tin-trade was at that time very considerable; for otherwise there would have been no necessity for any such authorities to support it.

P. What was the state of the Tin-trade in the reign of king John?

T. 'Tis self-evident that Devonshire produced a much larger quantity of Tin than Cornwall itself; the coinage of the former being farmed at 100 l. annually; whereas that the latter produced was valued at no more than 100 marks.

P. In what state and condition, however, was the Tin-trade of this county at present?

T. Now, indeed, it must be acknowledged, that Cornwall has almost the whole trade; notwithstanding there are still some works here, the advantages are very trivial and insignificant, unless in two or three very lately opened.

P. Were there ever any gold mines discovered in this county?

P 2

T. Some

T. Some few ; but for want of fuel, and some other substantial reasons, never have been, nor ever will, we presume, be brought to perfection.

P. What character, pray, did the ancient inhabitants of this county bear?

T. They were represented as persons altogether intrepid, prodigal of life, constant in affection, courteous to strangers, and extremely fond of popular applause.

P. What account does Diodorus Siculus give of them, when they went under the denomination of the Dunmonii?

T. He assures us, that those original inhabitants were a civil and courteous people in those barbarous times, stout and puissant, taking heart even of the soil itself, and emboldened by the roughness of their country, and so magnanimous were they, that they were not totally subdued by the Saxons, till the year 465.

P. What character do the Devonians bear at this day?

T. They no ways deviate from the virtues of their illustrious ancestors ; for they are a bold and hardy people, to the last degree, and use their utmost endeavours

maintain

maintain their post of honour and reputation in the world. Their constitutions are strong; they are quick of apprehension, and easily instructed in any employment whether military or civil. The lower class are very robust, very diligent and industrious, and very ready to serve their country either by sea or land.

P. As you have before given me a satisfactory account of the various fruit-trees of this county, what plants are there in it that are scarcely to be met with in any other?

T. As one Mr. Pike has been pleased to communicate to the public an alphabetical list, or catalogue, of all such plants as he found peculiarly remarkable within the parish of Biddeford, and the parts adjacent, I shall take the liberty here to transcribe it, which is as follows.

A lder's Tongue,	Paul's Betony,
Agrimony,	Bishop's Weed,
Water Agrimony,	Birds Foot.
Alder, Black,	Bistort,
Wood Betony,	Briony, White,
Water Betony,	——, Black,

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Buck-bean,	Flax-Weed,
Bugloss,	Figwort,
Vipers Bugloss,	Fox-Glove,
Butchers Broom,	Fumitory,
Brook-Lime,	Crow Garlic,
Buck's-Horn-Plan-	Gout-wort, or Ha
tain,	Gerard,
Sweet-Briar,	Stinking Gladin,
Bugle,	Glass-wort,
Clowns-woundwort	Golden-Rod,
or All-heal,	Ground Ivy,
Calamint,	Gromwell,
Calamus Aromaticus,	Hawke-weed, of
Celandine, Great,	veral sorts,
——, Small,	Sea Holly,
Centaury,	Herb-two-pence,
Cross-wort,	Hounds-tongue,
Clary, Wild,	Herb-Robert,
Cinquefoil,	Horse-tail,
Cranes-Bill,	Horn poppy,
Dwarf Elder,	Harts Tongue,
Dittanden,	John's Wort,
Devils-Bit,	Jack by the edge,
Dodder,	Job's Tears,
Sun-Dew,	James-wort, or B
Fluellin,	wort,

Ladies-bed-straw,	Navel-wort,
red, white and yellow,	Nightshade,
Loose-strife,	Orchis,
Sea Lavender,	Osmund royal,
Liver-wort,	Ox-Eye,
Ash-colour Liver-wort,	Ox-slips,
Cup Moss,	Orrice, stinking,
Mercury,	Wall-Pepper,
Mullein,	Peter's-wort,
Fern Moss,	Water-Pepper,
Milk-wort, white.	Parsly-piert,
red, and blue,	Plowmans-spikenard,
Madder,	Polly-pody of the
Golden Maiden-hair,	Oak,
White Maiden-hair,	Queen of the Meadows,
Bessom Moss,	Rue-leaf Witlow-grass,
Master-wort,	Snake-weed,
Vervain Mallow,	Scorpion-grass,
Melilot,	Soap-wort,
Mouse-Ear, several	Solomon's-seal,
sorts,	Sanicle,
Wild Marjoram,	Burnet's Saxifrage,
Mug-wort,	Scabius,
Nep, or Nimproyal,	Self-heal,
or Cat-mint,	Smallage,

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Smallage,
Snail-claver,
Spear-wort,
Tormentil,
Tway-blade,

Wild Thyme,
Valerian,
Vervain,
Winter-green,
Wood-forrel.



ADDITIONAL

&c.

ADDITIONAL

REMARKS.

REMARK I.

THIS county contains, according to Mr. Templeman's survey, 2385 square miles, in which are computed about 1,920,000 acres, 33 hundreds, 12 boroughs that send each two members to parliament, 40 market-towns, 394 parishes, 117 vicarages, 1733 villages, near 57,000 houses, and 340,000 inhabitants. 'Tis in short, the largest and most populous county

county in England, York-shire only excepted: Devonshire however, is so full of great towns, and those towns so full of people, and those people so universally employ'd in trade, that it cannot be equall'd throughout all England.

R E M. II.

This county has the honour of giving the title of duke and earl to the noble family of Cavendish.

R E M. III.

There were more parliamentary boroughs in this county formerly than in any other county whatever, Cornwall only excepted; many of them are now misus'd, as for instance the nine following, viz.

Bradninch,
Crediton,
Exmouth,
Fremington,
Lydeford,

Modbury,
South Moulton, and
Chipping Tarring-
ton.

There

R E M. IV.

There were other corporations in this county whose charters are in force to this day, and which were as liable to be returned as some of the former, by their sheriffs (in whose power it was to return what borough they pleased) but pleading poverty, or making some other complaint of the like nature, they were excused from sending members to parliament, as for instance the thirteen following, viz.

Hampton,	Kenniford,
Hiddiford,	Milverton,
Thadlington,	Pepilford,
Embery,	Seale,
Cartland,	Troskebere, and Tishampton.
Newton Abbas,	
Fordcomb,	

R E M. V.

The following twelve boroughs still enjoy the privilege of returning two members, namely, :

Exeter

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Exeter,	Honiton,
Totness,	Tavistock,
Plymouth,	Ashburton,
Okehampton,	Dartmouth,
Barnstaple,	Beeralston and T
Plympton,	verton.

And the county itself returning two, the whole amounts to twenty six.

R E M. VI.

Exeter which is 138 computed miles and 172 measur'd miles from London, is the city and principal town in this county, is also the see of a bishop, which was transplanted to this place from Crediton, by Edward the Confessor, and takes its name from the river Ex. It was called Isca by Ptolemy Isca Dunmoniorum, by Antonine in his itinerary, and Monkton, from the multitude of monks who formerly resided there.

R E M. VII.

This city, which is situated on a rising ground, together with its suburbs, is twenty miles in circumference; it has six gates and four principal streets, which all meet

in the centre of the city, commonly, tho' corruptly called Carfox, for quartre voys, that is to say four ways, and divide the whole into four quarters, in every one of which are divers streets and by-lanes. There are twenty churches in the city and suburbs, (exclusive of chapels and dissenting meeting-houses) thirteen whereof during the usurpation of Oliver Cromwell, were exposed to sale by the common cryer: sixteen of them are within the walls, and four without. The cathedral which is dedicated to St. Peter, is a very curious magnificent structure vaulted throughout, being 150 feet in length and 75 in breadth: notwithstanding it was 400 years before it was perfectly finish'd, it looks as uniform as if it had been erected by one man only; it has a ring of ten bells, which are reckoned the largest in England, as is likewise the organ; for the biggest pipe is fifteen inches diameter, and larger than that of the celebrated organ at Ulm by two inches. It is customary to see hundreds of people here at the morning service at six o'clock both winter and summer.

R E M. VIII.

This city has had divers charters granted or confirmed by most of our kings, many of whom have honoured it with their presence.

R E M. IX.

It was made a mayor-town in the reign of king John, and a county of itself by king Henry VIII.

R E M. X.

'Tis governed by a mayor, twenty-four aldermen, a recorder, chamberlain, &c. they have also a sheriff, town clerk, sword bearer, and four stewards; and when they go to church, and in all publick processions they are attended by four serjeants at mace and as many staff bearers. Its members are chosen by the magistrates and freemen, and are at least 1200.

R E M. XI.

It had antiently a mint, and in the reign of king William III. many pieces of silver money were coined here, which may be distinguish'd by the letter E under the king's bust.

R E M. XII.

There are thirteen city companies, each of which is governed by officers chosen annually among them; the mayor or his officers, hear, try, and determine all pleas and civil causes between party and party, with the advice of the recorder, aldermen and common council of the city; criminal causes, however, crown causes, and those relating to keeping the peace, are determined by eight aldermen, who are justices of the peace.

R E M. XIII.

In their guild hall are the pictures of General Monk, and the princess Henrietta Maria.

R E M. XIV.

The bridge which runs over the river Ex is of a great length, and has houses on both sides and at both ends, with a good vacancy in the middle.

R E M. XV.

This city is plentifully supplied with water, brought from the parts adjacent in pipes to several conduits, one whereof was erected by William Duke, mayor of the city in the reign of Edward IV.

R E M. XVI.

The dean and chapter have their houses about the cathedral, which, (like those at Sarum) form what is called the close; and within that circuit there are two churches to attend the cathedral: the dean, chancellor and treasurer, are the four dignitaries of it; and to these are added four archdeacons, viz. Exeter, Totness, Barnstaple and Cornwall.

R E M. XVII.

There is an old castle here, called Rougemont, from the red soil it stands in, whence there is a pleasant prospect from a beautiful terras walk with a double row of fine elms, up the channel ten miles to the south, which is suppos'd to have been built by the west Saxon kings, and that they made it their residence, as did afterwards the earls and dukes of Cornwall, to whom it has appertained ever since. 'Tis at present greatly decay'd; a part of it, however, is still reserved for the assizes, quarter sessions, and county courts, together with a chapel.

R E M. XVIII.

In the south gate, there are two common prisons, and a compter for arrests upon citations.

R E M. XIX.

In the city and suburbs there are several hospitals, a work house, alms houses and charity schools; but one hospital in parti-

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cular for the sick and lame poor of this city and county, which was founded by Dr. Alured Clark, dean of Exeter, and the first stone thereof was laid the 27th of August 1741, by him, accompanied by the bishop and a great number of the neighbouring clergy who were subscribers, besides some thousands of joyful spectators. This building is 300 feet in length, and erected after the model of the infirmaries of London and Westminster.

R E M. XX.

Formerly the sea flow'd up to the walls of the city, and ships could load and unload at the place called the water gate; but Hugh Courtney, earl of Devon, being offended with the citizens on being disappointed of some fish from the market, and being desirous of advancing the trade of his manor of Topsham, which lies three miles lower made weirs, which for a long time so far obstructed the navigation, that goods were brought hither from Topsham by land; and notwithstanding the citizens obtained a decree of equity for the removal of those weirs, yet such was the earl's power and

interest

interest that it did not avail them, and glad they were to preserve the duties accruing to their town, which were paid at Topsham; about forty years ago however, the inhabitants, by the aid and assistance of an act of parliament, perfected a work, which they had begun no less than an 100 years before, and cut such a channel thro' the dams, that by the contrivance of sluices and gates, vessels of 150 tons can now come up to their quay.

R E M. XXI.

Its markets are on Wednesdays and Fridays, and it has seven several fairs, viz. Ash-Wednesday, Whit-Monday, Holy-Thurday, July 22, August 1, December 6, and December 21. Lammas fair, however, is the greatest, being much frequented by mercers, linen-drappers, haberdashers, &c. from London, and it lasts three whole days, and two half days. Notwithstanding the great trade there is here for serges, Perpetuanas, long-ells, druggets, kerseys, and other woollen goods made in this city and the parts adjacent, in which it is computed that

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that at least 600,000 l. per annum is traded for here; yet no markets were erected for wool, yarn and kerseys, till the thirtieth of Henry VIII. Before that time, the merchants drove a considerable trade to Spain and France; and the latter were incorporated in the reign of queen Mary I. by the name of the governor, consuls and society of merchant-adventurers trading to France.

R E M. XXII.

In this city there is a weekly serge-market, said to be the greatest in all England, the brigg-market at Leeds in Yorkshire only excepted, and we are credibly informed, that some weeks as many serges have been sold here as amount to 60 or 80,000 l. nay sometimes to 100,000 l. for besides the vast quantities of their woollen goods shipped for Portugal, Spain and Italy, the Dutch give large commissions for buying up serges, perpetuanas, &c. for Holland and Germany.

R E M. XXIII.

'Tis particularly remarked of this city that it is almost as full of gentry as of tradesmen.

tradesmen, and that more of its mayors and bailiffs have descended from or given life to good families than in any other city of its bigness in the kingdom; for the great trade and flourishing state of this kingdom tempted gentlemen to settle their sons here, contrary to the practice of many of the inland as well as northern counties, where according to the vain and destructive notion of the Normans, trade was look'd upon by the gentry with an eye of contempt, and as fit only for mechanics and the vulgar.

R E M. XXIV.

This city was under the jurisdiction of the Romans, whose coins have been frequently dug up therein, and in the parts adjacent. After they left England, the Saxons drove the Britons out of it into Cornwall, and encompassed it with a ditch and a stone wall (which still remains entire) besides bulwarks. The Danes attacked and spoiled it in the year 875, and afterwards in revenge of the general massacre of the Danes by the English, Swain, one of their kings

kings came hither with a great navy, put the men to the sword, ravished the women, massacred the children, burnt the city and demolished the walls. A long time after this, and just as the city was reviving, William the conqueror besieged and took it; and it was besieged again in the reigns of king Stephen and Edward IV; in the reign of Henry VIII. it was again besieged by Perkin Warbeck, and most furiously battered; the citizens, however, compelled him to raise the siege, which so pleased the king, that he came hither and presented a cap of maintenance to the city, and gave the very sword from his side to be borne always before the mayor. In the reign of Edward VI. in July 1554, it was smartly cannonaded by the rebels in Cornwall and Devon, who almost starved it by breaking down its bridges, cutting off its water, and stopping up all passages; but it held out manfully till the lord John Russel came with a force and raised the siege on the 6th of August, which was then appointed as an anniversary day of thanksgiving by the city, and is still observed here as such by the name of *Jesuit day*.

day, at which time a sermon is preached on the occasion by the mayor's chaplain.

R E M. XXV.

King Charles the first's queen, to whom this city gave shelter in the civil wars, was here delivered of Henrietta, afterwards dutchess of Orleans. Here was a garrison also for king Charles I. which was forced at last to surrender to lord Fairfax upon articles, whereby the princess was left entirely to the king's disposal.

R E M. XXVI.

Exeter, in short, by a constant adherence to its motto, SEMPER FIDELIS, has been applauded by all historians, for its inviolable fidelity to its sovereigns, whether they held their crown by hereditary or parliamentary right.

R E M. XXVII.

It formerly gave the title of duke to the families of Beaufort and Holland, which was afterwards lessened to that of marquis by king Henry

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Henry VIII. in the person of Henry Courteney, and then it decreased to that of earl, in the person of treasurer Burleigh, who was so created by king James I. and it still continues in the illustrious family of the Cecils. This city had the honour of giving birth to Sir Thomas Bodley, the founder of that famous library at Oxford, and to the late lord chancellor King.

R E M. XXVIII.

About a mile and half without the gate of Exeter, is the parish of Heavy-tre, so called from the gallows erected for the execution of their malefactors; near which is a burial-place for them, purchased in the reign of king Edward VI. by the widow of one Mr. Tuckfield, the sheriff of Exeter, who also left money to procure them shrouds.

R E M. XXIX.

Totness, which has a fine bridge on the river Dart, leading to Berry Pomeroy, which is about eight miles from Dartmouth, is so computed, and 195 measured miles from London.

London, is a borough by prescription, and the most antient in the whole county.

R E M. XXX.

King John made it a corporation, consisting of fourteen burgo-masters, one of whom is a mayor, who, with his predecessor and the recorder, are justices of the peace. There are twenty common-council men, and some few freemen elected by the mayor and masters. Here is a spacious church with a fine tower, and four pinnacles, above ninety feet high, a town-hall, and a school-house.

R E M. XXXI.

Its chief trade is the woollen-manufacture; but here are more gentlemen than tradesmen of note, and tho' the corporation is not the richest in England; yet so well affected are they to the establishment of the present royal family, that its loyal address to the late king George I. upon occasion of the Vienna-treaty between the late emperor and the king of Spain will never be forgot, wherein the good people assured his majesty of their readiness, not only to grant him four shillings in the pound

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pound land-tax, but if his service required it to give him the other sixteen.

R E M. XXXII.

This town, which suffered many alterations from Romans, Saxons, Danes and Normans was formerly walled in, and had four gates but only the south-gate, and some small parts of the rest remain, and it had a castle, whose outward walls are still entire, except the battlements. The famous Roman fosse-way which began here, though 1400 years old is still visible in this place.

R E M. XXXIII.

In the reign of king Charles I. this town gave title of earl to lord Carew of Clopton as it afterwards did that of viscount to the earl of Plymouth, a natural son of king Charles II.

R E M. XXXIV.

Here is plenty of all provisions, particularly good fish, and delicate trouts. One man will sometimes take up thirty salmon at once from seventeen to twenty inches long,

DEVONSHIRE. 137

which he will ask but two-pence a-piece.
The fishermen here catch salmon-peel with
a spaniel trained up for the purpose, which
drives them into a shove-net.

R E M. XXXV.

Its markets are on Tuesdays and Saturdays;
and it has three fairs, viz. May 1, August 15,
and October 28.

R E M. XXXVI.

This town belonged antiently to the lord's
Zouch, till the attainder of one of them in
the reign of king Henry VII. who granted
it to one Richard Edgcomb. Sir Edward
Seymore purchased the castle, honour, and
manor, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, from
whose family they have since passed to the
Bogans.

R E M. XXXVII.

Here was once a priory. It first sent
members to parliament, in the twenty-third
year of the reign of king Edward I.

R E M. XXXVIII.

As this town is about seven or eight miles distant from the sea, the river here is considerably broad; and the tide flows ten or twelve feet at the bridge.

R E M. XXXIX.

Plymouth, which is 173 computed, and 215 measured miles from London, stands between the two rivers Plym and Tamar, just before their influx into the British channel; and from a meer fishing-town, is become the biggest in all the county, and contains in it almost as many souls as Exeter itself.

R E M. XL.

This town is one of the principal magazines in the whole kingdom, which is in a great measure owing to the advantageous situation of its port, or rather its two harbours, that are capable of containing no less than 1000 sail of ships, in as great safety, as the port of London itself.

R E M XLI.

It is defended by several forts, which are mounted with no less than 300 guns; and particularly by a royal citadel, erected in the reign of Charles II. opposite to St. Nicholas island, (which lies within the circuit of its walls) and contains in it a large store-house and five regular bastions.

R E M. XLII.

In war-time, the outward-bound convoys generally rendezvous here; and homeward-bound ships for the most part put in here, in order to furnish themselves with able and experienced pilots to conduct them up the channel, as men of war do to wait for wind.

R E M. XLIII.

About two miles up the mouth of the river Tamar (which inlet of the sea is called Ham Ooze, as the mouth of the other is Catwater, and commanded by the castle on St. Nicholas island before mentioned) are two docks, built in the reign of king Wil-

liam III. one wet, the other dry, with a bason of 200 feet square before it, which has all the conveniencies requisite for building or repairing of ships, is hewn out of a mine of slate, and lined with Portland-stone.

R E M. XLIV.

This town has a good pilchard-fishing, and drives a considerable trade to the Streights and the West Indies.

R E M. XLV.

It has a custom-house and two churches, which, notwithstanding there are several rich and substantial meeting-houses erected therein, have each so large a cure of souls, that the parish-clerks, till very lately, were in deacons orders, to enable them to perform all the sacerdotal functions. The profits arising from the pews, are reserved for the subsistence of the poor. The choice of the lecturers every three years, is vested in the corporation, which was constituted in the reign of king Henry VI. and was to consist of a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four common council men. The mayor is elected by a jury of thirty-six persons, chosen by four others,

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others, of whom the mayor and aldermen chuse two, and the common-council men the other two. Here is likewise a recorder and a town-clerk, whose place is very advantageous.

R E M. XLVI.

The town is divided into four parts, which, till they had a mayor, were governed by as many captains, each of whom had three constables under him as assistants.

R E M. XLVII.

It is well supplied with fresh water, which was first brought hither from a place seven miles off, at the sole expence of Sir Francis Drake, who was born here.

R E M. XLVIII.

Its markets are on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays; and it has two fairs, viz. on the 18 of October, and the Thursday after the festival of St. Luke. The toll of the markets, and of the corn, yarn, &c. with the profits of the mill, which is very considerable, belongs to the corporation; as also the

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the revenue of the shambles, which are farmed out at 160 l. per ann. for the more honourable support of the mayor's kitchen.

R E M. XLIX.

This town gives the title of earl to the lord Windsor.

R E M. L.

Okehampton, otherwise called, Ockington, which is 160 computed and 193 measured miles from London, tho' but 20 from Exeter, is situate on the river Oke, a mile from its parish-church, which stands by itself on a hill, near the small ruins of a castle there, erected in the reign of king William the Conqueror. 'Tis an antient borough and barony, governed by a mayor, 8 capital burgeses, and as many assistants, a recorder, a justice of the peace, and a town-clerk. It was incorporated by king James I.

R E M. LI.

The town-hall is but a very mean one, and the chapel of ease is equally so; but in the reign of king James I. one of the family of the Trelawney's added a little neat tower, in order to give it the form of a chapel.

R E M. LII.

The chief manufacture of this place is wages; but its principal subsistence arises from the numerous good inns that lie on the road from Launceston to Crediton.

R E M. LIII.

The manor of this borough is vested in the 8 principal members of the corporation. This manor came, by marriage, from the Medver's family to the Courtenay's; of whom Robert, in the reign of king John, gave 500 l. and 5 palfreys, to have livery of the honour of Okehampton. His posterity enjoyed it, till king Edward IV. seized it for the adherence of his descendants, to the house

house of Lancaster, and granted the honour, castle, manor, and borough to Sir John Dynham, who also soon after forfeited them; and king Henry VII. restored them to the Courtenay's, one of whom being also attainted in the reign of king Henry VIII. that king dismantled the castle, and destroyed the park, &c. but queen Mary revoked his attainder, and restored the honour and manor to his son Edward Courtenay. The manor, however, came afterwards to one Christopher Harris, who married a daughter of the first lord Mohun, who was created baron of Okehampton by king Charles I. and whose descendant (the last that had the title) was killed in a duel with duke Hamilton, in the year 1712.

R E M. LIV.

This place had sent burgesses to parliament only once in the reign of Edward I. and once likewise in that of Edward II. but king Charles I. restor'd it to that privilege.

R E M. LV.

Its markets are on Saturdays only; but its seven several fairs are kept on the days following, viz. on the second Thursday in March, on May the third, on the second Wednesday after Midsummer, on July 7, and 25, on the first Tuesday in September, and the first Wednesday in October.

R E M. LVI.

Barnstaple, which is 184 computed, and 194 measured miles from London, is situated on the river Taw, about thirty miles north of Exeter. Its name is compounded of the British term Bar, which signifies the mouth of a river, and the Saxon word Staple, the meaning whereof is a mart of trade.

R E M. LVII.

This place had formerly not only walls, but a castle, the liberties of a city, and a haven; but it became at last so shallow, that at spring-tides the adjacent fields are over-

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overflowed, that most of the trade removed to Biddeford. It has still, however, some merchants, and a good trade to America, as well as to Ireland; from whence is an established Port for landing wool and it imports more wine and other merchandize than Biddisford, and is in all other respects equally considerable; for notwithstanding its rival cures more fish, it does not carry on so great a trade with the serge-makers of Tiverton and Exeter, who come up hither to buy shad-fish, wool yarn, &c.

R E M. LVIII.

This town is pleasantly situated among hills, in the form of a semi-circle, to which the river is a diameter, and has a fair stone bridge over it, consisting of sixteen arches together with a paper-mill. The streets are clean and well paved, and the houses principally built with stone.

R E M. LIX.

'Tis a mayor-town, by charter from queen Mary, with twenty four common council

council men, of whom two are aldermen, besides a high steward, a recorder, his deputy, &c.

R E M. LX.

It gives title to one of the four archdeaconries of the diocese of Exeter, and is remarkable for its fine ale.

R E M. LXI.

It has two charity schools, one for fifty boys, and the other for thirty girls; and formerly here were several popish chantries, and other religious houses. Queen Mary gave the manor to one Thomas Marrow of Warwickshire, whose son sold it to the Chichesters, who are the present proprietors. It has sent burgesses to parliament ever since the twenty-third of king Edward I.

R E M. LXII.

Its markets are on Wednesdays and Fridays, and its fairs on the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th, of September, all toll-free.

N^o. 6.

S

Plympton,

R E M. LXIII.

Plympton, which is 180 computed, and 220 measured miles from London, is situated about five miles only from Plymouth, and lies on a stream but one mile from its influx into the river Plym, from whence it derives its name.

R E M. LXIV.

This town was made a borough in the reign of king Edward III. by one Baldwin de Rivers, earl of Devon; and has the ruins of a castle, which was the seat of the ancient earls of that name, who were barons of Plympton.

R E M. LXV.

It was incorporated by queen Elizabeth under a mayor, recorder, eight aldermen, principal burghesses, who are called common council men, a bailiff, a town-clerk, &c.

R E M. LXVI.

It is called Plympton-Earl's, or Maurice (its church being dedicated to that saint) to distinguish it from Plympton Mary's, which is situate but at about half a miles distance from it. It is a populous town, notwithstanding it chiefly consists of two streets only, and the buildings for the most part both old and ordinary.

R E M. LXVII.

Here is a guild hall, supported by stone pillars, where the corn market is kept; and the best free-school in all these parts, erected on stone pillars in the year 1664, by Sir John Maynard, one of the trustees of Elizeus Cole, Esq; of Cornwood, who gave 1500 l. per annum to such charitable uses.

R E M. LXVIII.

It was given to the Rivers's earls of Devon, by king Henry I. and passed from them, with the earldom, by marriage, to the Courtneys, who held it as the manor of Okehampton; only one fourth part of it came to the Vivy-

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ans by marriage, and another fourth to one Mr. Parker of Bevington. The remainder of it was vested in the late John Pollixfen nephew to the lord chief justice, who purchased it of one Christopher Monk, duke of Albemarle, whose father bought it of the Heles.

R E M. LXIX.

This borough began to send members to parliament in the twenty-third year of the reign of king Edward I. and it is also one of the stannary towns.

R E M. LXX.

Its market is on Saturdays; and its several fairs on February 14, March 25, Holy Thursday, June 24, August 1, and October 18

R E M. LXXI.

Plympton St. Mary's, which is situate just by the former, of which it was once the mother-church, had a college consisting of a dean and four prebendaries, founded by one of the Saxon kings; but they were displaced by

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by one of the bishops of Exeter, because they would not part with their prostitutes, whom they fostered there; and a priory of canon-regulars was erected in their stead.

R E M. LXXII.

Honiton, which is 126 computed, and 156 measured miles from London, is situate near the river Otter (over which it has a bridge) in the best and most pleasant part of the county, which abounds with corn and pasture, and on which bridge is the most beautiful prospect, perhaps, in all the world, which extends itself almost as far as Exeter, from which 'tis at least twelve miles distant.

R E M. LXXIII.

'Tis an antient borough by prescription, and governed by a portreeve, who is elected annually, at the court of the lord of the manor.

R E M. LXXIV.

'Tis a populous well-built town, having a channel of clear water running through its main street, with a dipping-place at every door.

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door; and it is remarkable for its being paved with small pebbles.

R E M. LXXV.

As the parish-church is half a mile at least from the town, and situate upon a hill, the gentry ride to it, either on horseback, or in their coaches; for whose conveniency there are stables erected near the church-yard. There was formerly an old chapel in the town, but it being very ruinous, it was pulled down, and a new one was erected in its stead, in the year 1743.

R E M. LXXVI.

Here was the first serge manufacture in all the county; but the inhabitants at present are principally employed in the manufacture of the broadest lace that is made in any part of the kingdom of England, of which great quantities are sent to London.

R E M. LXXVII.

A charity-school for thirty boys was founded here in the year 1713, and about a quarter of a mile out of the town on the east

side of the road to Exeter, there is an hospital for four lepers, which was founded and endowed by one Thomas Chard, an abbot, with an handsome chapel annexed to it. The governor and patients are put in by the rector, church-wardens and overseers of the poor, and by a regulation in 1642, other poor patients are admitted as well as lepers.

R E M. LXXVIII.

The manor antiently belonged to the earls of Devon, and is still part of the estate of the Courtneys of Powderham castle, a younger branch of their family.

R E M. LXXIX.

The list of members of parliament for this town begins in the twenty-eighth year of the reign of king Edward I. but the privilege of electing them was discontinued till it was restored in the sixteenth year of the reign of king Charles I.

R E M. LXXX.

A dreadful fire happened in this town on the 19th of July 1747, by which three parts
of

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of it were reduced to ashes, and the damage was computed at 43000 l.

R E M. LXXXI.

Its market formerly, before the reign of king John, was kept on Sunday; but afterwards it was changed to Saturday. It has but one fair, and that is kept on the 20th of July.

R E M. LXXXII.

Tavistock, which is 166 computed and 201 measured miles from London, is situate near the river Tamar, and is a very antient borough by prescription. It never was incorporated, but is governed by a Portreeve, who is elected annually on Michaelmas day by twenty four freeholders at the court of the lord of the manor, now the duke of Bedford, to whom this town gives the title of marquis.

R E M. LXXXIII.

It is one of the stannary towns, and is very spacious. The houses are well built, and

and the church, which is a very handsome one, is covered with slate. Here are two mills-houses, and plenty of fish, which the inhabitants catch in the river Tave, whereon the town stands.

R E M. LXXXIV.

In the year 691, king Edgar's son built a stately abbey here, (whose abbots were barons of parliament) where books were printed in the old Saxon language, (particularly a Saxon grammar in the late civil wars) and a school was erected for teaching. The site of this abbey, at the dissolution of it, was given by king Henry VIII. together with the town and burgage, to one John Russel, afterwards earl of Bedford, the duke's ancestors. Among other remains still to be seen, are part of the abutments of the arch of the guild-bridge over the Tave.

R E M. LXXXV.

This town has enjoyed the privilege of sending members to parliament ever since the

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the reign of king Edward I. and they are
returned by the portreeve.

R E M. LXXXVI.

Its market is on Saturday, and its fair
on April 25, August 29, September 29, and
November 30. It once had a fair on the
6th of January, but that is discontinued.
St. Mark's day is a great fair for sheep
and St. Andrew's for cattle and horses.

R E M. LXXXVII.

Ashburton, which is 153 computed and
191 measured miles from London, is a great
thoroughfare upon the London road, be-
ing about half way between Exeter and
Plymouth.

R E M. LXXXVIII.

It is an antient borough, by prescription
and governed by a portreeve, who is annu-
ally elected at the court-leet and baron of
Richard Duke and Roger Tuckfield, Esq.
lords of the manor; and this last is the
returning officer of the members of parlia-
ment.

ment. The election, having been for many years discontinued, was restored by the interest of Sir John Northcote, of this county, Bart. soon after the restoration of king Charles II.

R E M. LXXXIX.

This is one of the four stannary-towns, and is situate on the river Dart, among divers hills, which are remarkable for their mines of tin and copper. It is noted likewise for its manufacture of serge.

R E M. XC.

Though the manor belonged antiently to the see of Exeter, yet 'tis supposed to have belonged to the crown, ever since the third year of the reign of king Henry IV. And it appears, that when king James I. created his son Charles prince of Wales, he gave him, together with other lands, this manor: king Charles II. however, gavd it to Sir Robert Parkhurst, and the lord Sands, earl of Feversham, who afterwards alienated it; the one having sold his part to Sir John Stawell, whose son's executors sold it again to the trustees

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trustees of Roger Tuckfield, Esq; the other being purchased by Richard Duke of Devonshire, Esq;

R E M. XCI.

This town has a handsome church, more like a collegiate than a parochial one, and a chapel, which was antiently a chantry. The latter is used as a school, as well as for parish meetings; and likewise for the election of its members of parliament.

R E M. XCII.

Its markets are on Tuesdays and Saturdays the former for wool and yarn only, which was procured by one Mr. Ford in the year 1672; the latter is for provisions of all sorts. Its fairs are on the first Thursday in March, the second Thursday in June, August 10, and November 11. The two former were obtained by ——— Stapleton, bishop of Exeter, in the year 1273, and the two last by Andrew Quick, Esq; about threescore years ago.

Dartmouth

R E M. XCIII.

Dartmouth is a corporation town, formed out of Clifton, Dartmouth and Hardnefs, which were originally three distinct towns. 'Tis 165 computed, and 192 measured miles from London.

R E M. XCIV.

The river Dart, which rises in Dartmoor forest, runs into its harbour, from whence it derives its name. It was called Clifton, from the cliffs or rocks, on which most of their houses are erected, and out of which many of them were dug.

R E M. XCV.

This town was burnt down to the ground in the reign of king Richard I. by the French, and a second time in the reign of king Henry IV. After it had been rebuilt for some time, they attempted to reduce it to ashes once more; but were bravely repulsed, and principally through the courage and conduct of its female inhabitants, who fought like so many Amazonian heroines, that besides the

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great slaughter which they made, they took Mr. Castel, the French general, three lords and twenty-three knights prisoners.

R E M. XCVI.

This town is governed by a mayor, twelve masters or magistrates, twelve common council men, a recorder, two bailiffs, a town clerk, and a high-steward; the three last are chosen by the mayor and magistrates, who have a power to make freemen. The mayor, bailiffs and governor are chosen yearly. Here is likewise a court of session, and a water-bailiff-court, holden by a lease from the duchy of Cornwall for three lives, for which they pay fourteen pounds a year chief-rent.

R E M. XCVII.

The town, which is about a mile long, is situate on the side of a craggy hill. Its streets are very irregular, being sometimes two or three one above another; the houses, however, are for the most part very high.

R E M. XCVIII.

Five hundred sail of ships may ride in its harbour, which is defended by three castles, besides forts and block-houses; and its entrance may, upon occasion, be shut up by a chain. Here is a large quay, and before it a spacious street, in which several considerable merchants reside, who carry on a large trade to Portugal, Italy, Newfoundland, &c. and from the last to Italy, &c. with fish. Here is likewise the greatest pilchard-fishery of any place in the western county, Falmouth only excepted.

R E M. XCIX.

The property of the manor is vested in the corporation. Here are three churches, besides a very spacious dissenting meeting-house. The shipping and trade of this port and town, was the most considerable of any in the county, except Exeter, till the late increase of Plymouth in both.

R E M. C.

It gave the title of baron to George Legg, formerly governor of Portsmouth, as it does at this present day of earl to his son William Legg.

R E M. CI.

The freemen, who vote for its members of parliament, are in number seventy-eight, and the return is made by the mayor.

R E M. CII.

This was first made a mayor and borough town by king John. King Edward III. granted that the burgesſies ſhould be toll-free throughout England, &c.

R E M. CIII.

King Richard II. in conſideration of the aid and aſſiſtance which the inhabitants of this town gave him, with reſpect to ammunition and proviſions in his war with France enacted, that no Tin ſhould be exported from any other place.

King

R E M. CIV.

King Edward IV. in order to reward the inhabitants for their courage against the French, translated the port hither from Fowey, and gave them twenty pounds per annum in fee-farm; to which Richard III. and Henry VII. added twenty pound per annum more. The high rents belonging to this corporation amount to about seventy pounds per annum. It begun to send members to parliament in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of king Edward I. but no more till the fourteenth of king Edward III.

R E M. CV.

Notwithstanding it has three churches (as before hinted) in the town; yet the mother-church is Tounstall, which is situate on a hill, at three quarters of a mile distance at least from the town: its tower is sixty-nine feet high, and is a good sea-mark. This town has a market, indeed, on Fridays, but no fairs.

R E M. CVI.

Beeralston, which is about 163 miles from London, and situate on the river Tave, tho' but a small hamlet, is an antient borough by prescription, under the government of a portreeve. The burgage-holders, who pay only three-pence per annum, or some other trivial acknowledgment for the land they hold by the borough, to the lord of the manor, are the only voters for its members, and the portreeve, who is chosen annually at his court, returns them.—It has a market on Thursdays, but no fairs.

R E M. CVII.

Tiverton, which is 136 computed, and 165 measured miles from London, was formerly called Twysford's-town, from two fords then over the Ex and the Leman, where are now stone bridges.

R E M. CVIII.

It is an antient town, but peculiarly remarkable for the greatest woollen manufacture in the county, Exeter itself excepted.

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and excepting that city likewise it is the richest if not the most populous of all the inland-towns throughout the county.

R E M. CIX.

It is governed by a mayor, twelve principal burgesſes, twelve inferior, or aſſiſtant burgesſes, a recorder, and a clerk of the peace. The mayor, by a charter granted by king James I. is jail-keeper, and the delivery thereof is to be holden before him and the recorder.

R E M. CX.

Here is a noble large free-school, which is a great ornament as well as advantage to the town, and was founded by one Mr. Peter Blondel, a clothier and a native, who gave 2000 l. for purchasing lands to maintain fix scholars at Oxford and Cambridge to be elected from this school. They are at present eight, and placed at Balliol College, Oxford, and Sidney in Cambridge. And he left moreover, an allowance for an annual feast here to be kept on St. Peter's day, in his commemoration.

This

R E M. CXI.

This town has suffered greatly by several fires, viz. on April 3, 1598, it being their market-day, a fire broke out, and spread with such fury, that several of the inhabitants were burnt in the streets and shops; together with 600 houses; inasmuch that only the church and two almshouses escaped. On the 5th of August 1612 another fire happened equally destructive and the loss was computed 35,000 l. and on the 5th of June 1731, there was another fire here which destroyed 200 of the best houses, and most of the manufactures to the loss in the whole of 150,000 l. but it has been since elegantly rebuilt, and the church not being large enough, a chapel has been erected by voluntary subscription of the inhabitants, which by parliament was made a perpetual curacy.

R E M. CXII.

In the church was a chapel built by the earls of Devon, (who were the lords of the manor, and had two parks here) for the

altars or burial places, which are now, indeed, demolished; but therein was a monument or tomb for Edward Courtney, earl of Devon and his countess, with the following remarkable inscription, viz.

"Ho, ho, who lies here?

'Tis I, the good earl of Devonshire.

With Kate my wife, to me full dear;

We liv'd together fifty-five year.

That we spent, we had;

That we left, we lost;

That we gave, we have."

R E M. CXIII.

The earls of Devon had a castle here, which, with the manor, came by marriage to the Trelawney's; but the latter has been since parted into so many shares, that it is almost impossible to give an account of them. A quarter of the manor of the borough was purchased by the father of the late Peter West. It is to be noted, that the earls of Devon, of the Redvers-family, were lords of the manor before the Courtneys; and that the dowager of Baldwin, the

R E M. CXVIII.

Here is another good long street, as broad as the high-street of Exeter, inhabited by wealthy merchants, who send ships every year to the West-Indies; but more particularly to Virginia, Newfoundland and Ireland from whence it is an established port for landing wool, and 'tis now a match for Barnstaple, which was once by far superior to it.

R E M. CXIX.

Forty or fifty sail of ships belonging to the port have been employed to fetch cod from Newfoundland, and others are sent to Liverpool and Warrington for rock-salt, which is here dissolved by the sea-water into brine and then boiled up into a new salt, which is justly called salt upon salt, and with this they cure their herrings.

R E M. CXX.

The Granville's, of whom were the earls of Bath, have been lords of this town ever since

Since the conquest; and it gave title of baron
in the eleventh of queen Anne, to George,
the late lord Lansdown.

R E M. CXXI.

There is a very handsome meeting-house
here, besides a large church, which are both
much frequented. Its weekly market is on
Thursday.

R E M. CXXII.

In this neighbourhood is Northam, which
is a nursery for mariners, with a good church,
whose steeple is a sea-mark for such sailors,
(in their own language) bear with the
weight.

R E M. CXXIII.

South-Moulton, which is 146 computed,
and 183 measured miles from London (tho'
but six from Biddisford, and thirty from
Exeter) is situate on the river Moul.

R E M. CXXIV.

This town (as well as North-Moulton)
was antiently a royal demesne, and was held
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in the reign of Edward I. by William lord Martin, by serjeancy, to find a man with bow and three arrows, to attend the earl of Gloucester, when he went to Gower to hunt.

R E M. CXXV.

In the reign of king Richard II. the manor came to the crown, for want of issue male of the children of James Audley, to whom it had passed by marriage; and queen Elizabeth having alienated it, the burgessees of the town bought it, and they and the mayor are now lords of it, paying a fee-farm rent to the king.

R E M. CXXVI.

This corporation, which once sent members to parliament in the reign of king Edward I. consists of a mayor, eighteen capital burgessees, a recorder, a town-clerk, and two serjeants at mace. The lord of the royalty either is, or lately was, one Mr. Hatch.

R E M. CXXVII.

The chief manufactures of this town are ferges, shalloons and felts; and great quantities

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ties of wool, brought from the country, are bought up here every Saturday.

R E M. CXXVIII.

In the year 1684, a merchant of London, a native of this town, built and endowed a free-school here; besides which here is a charity-school. In this parish, moreover, there are certain lands called Brimridge, which were formerly the estate of judge Doderidge.

R E M. CXXIX.

Its market is on Saturdays; and of them two in particular are very famous ones, viz. the Saturday before the 10th of April, and the Saturday before Michaelmas-day, which are plentifully supplied with all sorts of cattle, wares and merchandize.

R E M. CXXX.

Great Torrington; otherwise called Towridge-town, and, in old records, Chepan-Torrington, is 162 computed, and 192 measured miles from London. It has a bridge over the Towridge, and is an antient populous borough, - from whence a great trade is carried on to Ireland, &c. especially in stuffs.

R E M. CXXXI.

'Tis governed by a mayor and aldermen, and sixteen burgesſes, purſuant to its charter of queen Mary I. The petty ſeſſions, and other public meetings are generally held here by the gentlemen of the county.

R E M. CXXXII.

It has two churches; one with a library; and to one of the church-yards adjoins the manor-houſe, which, with the lands belonging to it, was ſettled on the parſon of the pariſh and his ſucceſſors, by king Henry the Eighth's mother, Margaret, counteſs of Richmond, who lived here, becauſe of the diſtance at that time between that church and the parſonage-houſe.

R E M. CXXXIII.

Here are alms-houſes, with right of commonage for the poor, and a charity-ſchool for thirty-two boys.

This

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R E M. CXXXIV.

This town, from the Norman conquest to the reign of Edward I. was a barony in the Fitz-Robert's family; afterwards it gave title of earl to Monk, duke of Albemarle, who restored king Charles II. and to admiral Herbert, who brought over the prince of Orange, afterwards king William III. from Holland, who dying without issue, it first gave title of baron to Thomas Newport, one of the lords of the treasury in the late reign, who also dying without issue, it then gave title of viscount to the brave admiral Sir George Byng. It sent burgesses to parliament in the reigns of Edward I. II. and III. but not since.

R E M. CXXXV.

It has a good market for corn, flesh, &c. on Saturdays; and its fairs are held on April 23 and 26, June 24, and September 29.

R E M. CXXXVI.

Modbury is 170 computed, and 223 measured miles from London. It once sent

U 3

members.

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members to parliament, viz. in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of king Edward but not since.

R E M. CXXXVII.

The chief manor here was conveyed, in the reign of Edward II. by Sir James Okston, to Sir Richard Champenon.

R E M. CXXXVIII.

It has a market on Thursdays; and its fairs are on St. George's and St. James's days; it is peculiarly remarkable for the fine ale brewed here.

R E M. CXXXIX.

Bradminch is 135 computed, and 17 measured miles from London. It stands on the river Collumb, in the road from Exeter to Wellington. 'Twas formerly known by the names of Bradneysham and Braines.

R E M. CXL.

'Tis a barony, which is a parcel of the duchy of Cornwall, whose dukes were always styled barons of Braines, and its mayors account

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accounts every year for its privileges with the king's officers, or with the duke of Cornwall.

R E M. CXLI.

It antiently sent two members to parliament, had a chantry, and, before its ruin by fire, a market on Saturdays; it has two fairs, however, viz. April 25 and September 21.

R E M. CXLII.

Ilfordcomb, Ilfarcomb, or Alfrincomb, is 152 computed, and 178 measured miles from London. 'Tis a populous, rich, trading sea-port, especially with herrings in the Bristol-channel, and peculiarly noted for maintaining constant lights to direct the failors; for its convenience of building and repairing ships; and for the safe shelter, which ships from Ireland find here, when it is extreamly dangerous for them to run into the Taw, which they call Barnstaple-water; and this is the reason why the Barnstaple merchants do so much of their business at this port.

The

R E M. CXLIII.

The harbour, with its quay, warp-house, light-house, pilot-boats and tow-boats, was formerly maintained at the expence of the ancestors of Sir Bouchier Wrey, baronet, the lord of the manor; and at that time, it had a quay, or pier, 850 feet in length; but by time, and the violence of the sea, all went to decay; for the remedy whereof, the parliament passed an act, in the year 1731, for both repairing and enlarging the piers, harbour, &c.

R E M. CXLIV.

The town is governed by a mayor, bailiffs, &c. and consists chiefly of one street of scattered houses, about a mile in length. The parish is large, containing several tithings and manors; the chief of which was formerly the estate of the Champernons, and afterwards of Sir John Herle. Its market is on Saturdays, but it has no fairs.

N. B. Though this ends the account of the boroughs belonging to the county; yet, as there are divers places of note therein, which

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which are not boroughs, we think it incumbent on us not to omit them.—And amongst these are the following, viz.

R E M. CXLV.

Kings-bridge is a pretty town, and pleasantly situated with a harbour for boats, and 170 computed, and 201 measured miles from London. 'Tis a chapel of ease to Chesham, has a bridge over the Salcomb to Dodbrook, and formerly belonged to the earls of Devon, 'till, by the attainder of one of the family, it came to the crown, and was purchased by Sir William Petre, ancestor of the present lord Petre.

R E M. CXLVI.

Here is a market on Saturdays, and a fair on St. Peter's day, that is to say, on the 20th of July. Here is likewise a free-school, founded and endowed by one Mr. Crispin, of Exeter.

R E M. CXLVII.

Dodbrook is situate on the river Salcomb, 170 computed, and 198 measured miles from

from London. Here is a custom of paying the parson tythe of white ale, and a charity school. Its market is on Wednesdays, and its fair (for it has but one) on the Wednesday before Palm-Sunday.

R E M. CXLVIII.

From this town the land runs out into a wide front, called by seamen the Start-point and gathers in again to the mouth of the river Dart, which rises in Dart-moor, a mountainous tract, twenty miles long, and fourteen broad, made into a forest by king John, where near 100,000 sheep, besides other cattle, feed all the summer long. The poor people in the parts adjacent, who come hither for turf for their winter fuel, are the most ignorant boors throughout the west of England.

R E M. CXLIX.

Torbay is a village, twelve miles north of Dartmouth, with a bay in the British channel, about twelve miles in compass, where was the general station of our fleets, during king William's war with France.

R E M. CL.

It gave title of baron to admiral Herbert, when he was created earl of Torrington by King William, who, when prince of Orange, landed here on the 5th of November 1688, from the fleet which brought him from Holland, under that admiral's command.

R E M. CLI.

This village was antiently the seat of the Manners, and afterwards of the Wakes. Making church here is reckoned the very first that was ever erected in this county. Near this village is a very remarkable well; but of that we have taken notice before in the preceding dialogue.

R E M. CLII.

Croken-Torr, is a noted hill and rock in the forest of Dart-moor, where the Tinnners of this county are obliged, by their charters, to assemble their parliamants, or courts of summary, of which the lord-warden is judge, and he summons the jurors, who are, for the generality, persons within the jurisdiction,

tion, to this desolate place; which be quite exposed to the weather, with no but a moor-stone bench, and no refreshment but what the company bring with them, where are sometimes two or three hundred gentlemen well mounted, the steward immediately adjourns the court to Tavistock, or some other stannary-town. Heretofore, when the Tin-mines of this county were in a more flourishing state and condition than they are at present, a great deal of business was dispatched, and the presentments of the jury were printed, which were commonly still Acts of Parliament; as their place of the meeting was called the Parliament-House.

R E M. CLIII.

Chudleigh, or Chidleigh, near the river Teign, is 146 computed, and 182 measured miles from London, and peculiarly noted for giving title of baron to the noble family Clifford, ever since the reign of king Charles the second.

R E M. CLIV.

The bishops of Exeter had a sumptuous seat here before the reformation, it being

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built by one of them in the reign of king Edward III. as his will says, "That his successors might have a place to lay their heads in, if the king should seize the temporalities." During their residence here, they purchased a market on Saturdays, and the four following fairs, viz. Those on Easter-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; and those of St. Barnabas and St. Martin.

R E M. CLV.

Crediton, vulgarly called Kirton, is situate on the river Creden, and is 147 computed, and 183 measured miles from London. In the time of the Saxons, it was the see of a bishop, which, though afterwards translated to Exeter, the cathedral is still standing.

R E M. CLVI.

Here is a meadow called my Lord's meadow; and here was born Boniface, archbishop of Mentz, commonly called the German apostle; because he converted the Hefians, &c. in Germany to the christian faith.

R E M. CLVII.

Its principal manufacture is serge, in which it drove a great trade, and was a flourishing town till the 14th of August 1743, when above 460 houses were burnt down, besides the market-house, wool-chambers, and other public buildings; insomuch that the loss in goods, and stock in trade, was computed at near 3000 l. and the loss in houses and goods not insured, at or near 50,000 l.

R E M. CLVIII.

Here was once a college and a chapel, dedicated to St. Lawrence, but it has long since lain in ruins, being alienated, together with the bishop's palace, to the family of the Kilgrews. Here is a charity-school, which has been long subsisting. In the reign of Edward I. it sent members to a parliament at Carlisle. Here is a market on Saturdays, and a fair on St. Lawrence's day.

R E M. CLIX.

Columbton, which is 134 computed, and 166 measured miles from London, is the

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best town on the river Columb, or Culme,
from whence it derives its name.

R E M. CLX.

The church here has a curious rich, gilded,
wood-lost, which is to this day preserved as
an ornament, notwithstanding the image,
which was worshipped in the days of popery,
is removed. Here were also divers chantries.

R E M. CLXI.

The manor belonged formerly to the ab-
bey of Buckland in this county; but after
the reformation, to Sir John St. Leger, who
sold it to T. Ridsen, Esq.

R E M. CLXII.

The woollen is its principal manufacture.
It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair only
on May-day. There are several other towns
on the river Columb, which take their re-
spective names from it; namely, Columb-
Davids, Uff-Columb, Columbstock, &c.
The first of which is a market-town full of
manufacturers, whose principal dependance
is on their several masters at Tiverton.

R E M. CLXIII.

Topsham, which is the port of Exeter, and only at about three miles distant from it, is 139 computed, and 175 measured miles from London.

R E M. CLXIV.

'Tis almost encompassed with the rivulets, cliffs and Ex, and has a market on Thursdays, and a fair on St. Margarets, and the days before and after, procured in the reign of king Henry VIII. by one of the Courtneys, earls of Devon, who were lords of the manor, and made it a flourishing town for a long time, by stopping the navigation of the river Ex with weirs; insomuch that all goods were wont to be carried from the ships to Exeter by land; but about forty years ago, the citizens, by the aid and assistance of an act of parliament, finished a work that had been begun above 100 years before, and cut such a channel through the dams, that by the contrivance of sluices and gates, vessels of 150 tons now go up to the quay.

The

R E M. CLXV.

The walk or ride from Exeter hither, which is but about three miles distant, as we have before hinted, is so very delightful, that it brings almost as many people hither for pleasure as for business.

R E M. CLXVI.

Axmister, or Axminster, which is situate on the very borders of Somersetshire, and the county of Dorset, is 119 computed, and 146 measured miles from London.

R E M. CLXVII.

'Tis a clean, healthy, considerable town, and derives one part of its name from the river Axe, whereon it stands, and the other from a minster, erected here by king Athelstan, for seven priests to pray for the departed souls of some persons buried here, who were killed in his army, when he defeated the Danes, at the bloody battle in an adjacent field, which to this day is called King's-field.

R E M. CLXVIII.

This town drives a small trade in Kersey druggets, and other articles of the woollen manufacture; and 'tis well supplied with fish from Lyme, Axmouth, and other coast-towns within its neighbourhood.

R E M. CLXIX.

Its market is on Saturdays; and its fairs on April 25, Midsummer-day, and the Monday after Michaelmas.

R E M. CLXX.

King John gave this manor to the lord William Brewer, (by whose interest the market and Midsummer fair above-mentioned was procured) and from him it descended by an heiress, to the lord Mohun of Dunster who gave it to the abbey which he had erected at Newenham, in the county of Gloucester.

R E M. CLXXI.

This hundred had the honour, on May the 24th 1650, of giving birth to the ever victorious

victorious John duke of MARLBOROUGH, at Ash, in the parish of Mosbury, the seat of his father Sir Winstal Churchill.

R E M. CLXXII.

Hartland, which is 171 computed, and 197 measured miles from London, stands on the promontory called Hartland-point, which is the extreme part of the county north-west, and runs out a good way into the sea.

R E M. CLXXIII.

In the reign of king William the Conqueror, this manor belonged to the Dinants, or Dinhams, from whom it descended by marriage to the Zouches, and from them successively to the Fitzwarrens, Carews, and Arundels; and it had formerly a convent. In the reign of queen Elizabeth a bill was preferred in parliament for making a port here,

R E M. CLXXIV.

The market is on Saturdays, and is much frequented by people from Cornwall; and as the fishing-boats of Barnstaple and Biddiford, and the other towns on the coast, lie often
under

under these rocks for shelter from the south-west or south-east winds, the seamen come on shore here, and supply themselves with provisions. Nor is the town, 'tis manifest, unconcerned in that gainful trade the herring fishery; for Clovelly, which lies on the same shore to the east, the seat of the antient family of the Caryes, is remarkable for the greatest herring fishery on the coast, above 400 horses being sometimes laden with them in a day, to the value of above 1500 l. in a season. Here is also taken the best cod in the world, though not in such quantities as on the banks of Newfoundland. The fairs of Hartland are kept on Easter-Wednesday, Whitsun-Tuesday, and on the 14th of September.

R E M. CLXXV.

Chimley, which is 148 computed, and 184 measured miles from London, is situate on the river Taw, near the midway from Exeter to Barnstaple. It has a market on Thursdays, and one fair only on the 22d of July.

There

R E M. CLXXVI.

There is a tradition here, that seven prebends were founded in this place by the lady of the manor, in commemoration of seven children, which she brought up, after taking them from the father, who said he had too many, and was carrying them in a basket, in order to drown them.

R E M. CLXXVII.

Comb-Martin, or Martin's-comb, situated on the Bristol channel, which is 149 computed, and 184 measured miles from London, was, for some considerable time, the lordship of the Martins, descended from Martin of Tours, a Norman lord, who had great possessions here in the reign of king Henry I: from whom, in part, it derives its name, and its other part from the British term Kum, which signifies a low situation.

R E M. CLXXVIII.

Here is a cove for the landing of boats. The adjacent soil not only produces plenty of the best hemp in the county, but has been famous

famous for mines both of Tin and Lead; the latter of which being found in the reign of king Edward I. to have some veins of silver 337 men were brought from Derbyshire to work them. But of these we shall say more here, having taken sufficient notice of them before in the preceding dialogue.

R E M. CLXXIX.

This manor descended from the Martins to the lords Audley, from whom, for want of issue-male, it reverted to the crown; and king Henry VIII. gave it to Sir Richard Pollard, the son of judge Pollard, whose posterity sold it to the Hancocks, who procure it a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on Whitsun-Monday.

R E M. CLXXX.

Lundy-Island, though fifty miles in the sea, off the north-west coast of Devonshire has several springs of fresh water: however as we have made our remarks on this island already in the preceding dialogue, we shall to avoid any needless repetition, only observe here; that in the reign of king Edward III. this island belonged to the Lutterels, and of

to the Greenvills. In the reign of king Henry VIII. one William Morisco, who had inspired to murder him at Woodstock, fled to this island, which he fortified, turned pirate, and did very considerable damages to the adjacent coasts; at length, however, he was taken by surprise, with sixteen accomplices, who were all executed accordingly, as they very justly deserved.

R E M. CLXXXI.

The principal seats in this county lie on about Halldown, which is a dry heath, about seven miles in length, and three in breadth; which, notwithstanding it is a dry, barren soil, is a most delightful situation, together with a most charming prospect both by sea and land; so that, unless it be in about London, there are not so many gentlemen's seats within that compass of ground, as lie round the skirts of this common; (that is to say) the lord Clifford's at Igloose; Sir William Courtney's at Powderham-castle; Sir Thomas Chudleigh's at Dawlish; the late bishop of Exeter's at Dawlish;

lish; the late Stephen Northleigh's, Esq; Peamore; Mr. Helyar's at Canons-Tring; Mr. Savery's at Trehall; Mr. Balle's at Maulhead; Mr. Woolcomb's at Place; Mr. Yard at Whiteway; Mr. Langdon's at Park-place; Mr. Geare's at Holloway; Mr. Shepherd's at Bell-Marsh; Mr. Davenport's at Burrough; lord Walpole's at Hynton; a considerable way farther to the west, near Hatherlay and Mr. Champney's near Barnstaple.

R E M. CLXXXII.

The antient places in this county are the that follow, viz. 1. The Isca, mentioned by Ptolemy. This is so plainly conveyed to us by the present river Ex, called by the Britons Isc, that there is no room to doubt but this is the same river. 2d. Isca Danmoniorum is our Exeter. 3d. Moridunum, though this indeed, has left nothing of the name; yet it seems to have its meaning preserved in a sea-coast town, called at this day Seton: for Mor is Mare, i. e. the sea, and Dunum a town. 4thly and lastly, Herculis Promontorium. This is with ease discovered by the present name

the Herty-point ; for which no tolerable
reason can be assigned, unless we allow it to
be a corruption of that hero's or demi-god's
name.

R E M. CLXXXIII.

The most remarkable incidents that have
occurred from time to time in this county
are as follow, viz. 1st. At Withicombe, in
a storm of thunder and lightning (in the
fourteenth year of the reign of Charles I.)
a ball of fire fell down upon the church, du-
ring divine service, which actually killed
three persons, and wounded sixty-two others,
and did other damage besides, to the value
of 300 l. and upwards.

2dly, A storm much of the same nature
happened, in the year 1689, at Crews-
worth in this county, which melted the
lead, and glass; and was so violent
that it rent the steeple.

3dly, 'Tis observable, that the organ, in
the cathedral at Exeter, is the biggest that
was ever made in England; the largest pipe
being no less than fifteen inches diameter.

4thly and lastly, There is a pit of ten
feet
No. 7. Y

feet deep, out of which there sometime
springs up a little brook, which, by the su-
perstitious populace, has been thought a
presage some national calamity; but what
grounds there are for such notions, we shall
not presume to determine.





THE
Natural Beauties
OF
DORSETSHIRE.

DIALOGUE III.

BETWEEN

TUTOR and PUPIL.

PUPIL.

AS the natives of Cornwall and Devonshire were called by the anti-ent Romans Dunmonii; by what name or title did they distinguish the inhabitants of this county?

Y 2

TUTOR.

TUTOR.

By the appellation of the Durotrogæ and the Greeks likewise distinguished them by the very same name, as evidently appears from Ptolomy's geographical tables.

P. How were they stiled by the antient Britons?

T. They were called (according to Aferius Mæssevenensis, who was a Briton himself, and flourished about the year of our lord 890) Dwr-Gwyr.

P. What, pray, is the true sense and signification of these two terms Durotrogæ and Dwr-Gwyr.

T. The explication of both is exactly the same; for the former is a compound word, and derived from the term Dour, or Dwr, which in the British language signifies water, and Trig and Gwyr an inhabitant; so that they may with propriety be said to be dwellers on the sea-coast. The Saxons indeed, called them Dwr-setta, but that bears the self same meaning as the other two.

T. What is the extent of this county?

T. From east to west it is about six five miles, and in breadth from north south about thirty three, which makes the extent

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extent in the whole, above 772,000 acres of land.

P. How is this county bounded?

T. On the North by Somersetshire and Wiltshire, on the west by Devonshire, on the east by Hampshire, and southward (on which side it is of the largest extent) it is all sea-coast.

P. Are there not several very important advantages arising from thence?

T. Yes, doubtless; for by that means, the whole county are supplied with a profusion of the best fish, and the inhabitants have all the opportunities imaginable of improving their trade and commerce.

P. What was king Charles II. pleased to say in favour of this county?

T. That he never saw, during all his travels, a finer spot of ground either in the kingdom of England, or any where out of it.

P. How is the air of this county?

T. For the generality very good, and perfectly wholesome; on the hills, indeed, 'tis sharp and bleak enough, but very moderate and extremely pleasant near the coast.

P. How is the soil of it?

T. Not-

T. Notwithstanding it is excessively sandy yet for the most part, it is very fruitful.

P. Which are the most deficient parts?

T. The northern and eastern, but even they yield a very considerably store both of wood and pasture.

P. Which are the principal rivers?

T. The Stour, the Frome, the Piddle, the Lyddon, the Derelish, and the Aller &c. but besides these, there are a great number of rivulets and brooks which discharge their waters into them.

P. What are those rivers peculiarly remarkable for?

T. All of them in general, indeed, yield a profusion of fish, but the Stour in particular, not only affords a prodigious quantity of tench and eels, but then they are principally valued for their intrinsic goodness and most delicious flavour.

P. From whence does the Stour take its rise?

T. Tho' it must be acknowledged, that its source or fountain-head lies in the county of Somerset; yet its waters soon enter this county and run due south to a town called Sturminster, where, making an angle, it forms a course near west-south-west, and leaves
Dor

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Dorsetshire about five miles below Winborn; but soon after that, they discharge themselves into the sea, at Christ Church in Hampshire.

P. From whence does the Frome take its rise?

T. In the eastern end of this county, and for the most part runs westward to Wareham, a little below which, it empties its waters into the bay, called pool-harbour.

P. With what are the downs and hills of this county principally covered?

T. With great flocks of large sheep, whose flesh is very delicate and sweet, and wool so fine, that it is much coveted by the clothiers, and by that means proves a golden fleece both to buyer and seller, and the valleys abound with other cattle. Butter is made here in its utmost perfection; the husbandman in this county reaps an ample reward for all his industry and toil; for all his grounds produce either a vast plenty of corn, flax, or hemp, which last commodity in particular is universally allowed to be better in this county than in any other throughout the whole kingdom of England;

England; so that 'tis no wonder that the inhabitants of this county deal so largely both in linen and woollen. Here are likewise a profusion of all sorts of fowls and birds both for profit and pleasure; in a word, there is no want here of any one thing that is requisite for the maintainance and support of the inhabitants, and what adds to the pleasure of it, all those various kinds of provisions may be purchased at very reasonable rates. This county moreover is peculiarly remarkable for the fine beer and ale that are brewed here, which are so much admired by some gentlemen, that they prefer them to the best wines in France.

P. What are the natural consequences that arise from all these valuable conveniences?

T. Great numbers of people make this part of England their favourite place of abode, and those too, persons of the highest rank and distinction; so that, notwithstanding the capital city of this county is upwards of an 100 miles distance from London, the inhabitants of the former are in all respects as polite and gay as those of the latter.

P. What

P. What have you more remarkable than ordinary on the sea-coast?

T. At the entrance into this county from Devonshire, stands a little town called Lime Regis, or Kings Lime, which is divided into two parts by a small river that is extremely commodious, notwithstanding it is somewhat difficult of access, indeed, on account of its being situated on a high steep rock; and about a century ago it could scarcely be termed a sea-port, yet it was even in those days frequented by a great number of fishermen, and was peculiarly remarkable for the salt-pans which at that time were used for boiling the sea-water. However, of late years, its harbour, called the Cobbe, has been so greatly improved, at the expence of several eminent and substantial merchants, and is so well secured against tempestuous weather, not only by the rocks, but a great number of lofty trees, that some people are of opinion, there is not a more commodious harbour to be met with in all his majesties dominions. Tho' the town, it must be allowed, is very small; yet, at this present juncture, 'tis the seat of an exceeding good trade.

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trade; but when that branch of it in particular flourished, called the New-found-land trade, the customs at that time produced for many years successively, very little less than 16,000 l. per ann.

P. For what is Brid-port, otherwise called Burt-port, and Birt-port, peculiarly remarkable?

T. Its soil is so particular, that it yields hemp to a much greater perfection than in any other county; nay, we may add, than in any other county throughout the kingdom of England. And as a demonstration of the truth of it, this town, tho' in all other respects inconsiderable enough, was heretofore so famous for making ropes and cables for ships, that it was provided by a special law, which was appointed to continue for a stated time, that such tackle as should be appropriated to the service of the English navy, should be made no where else; and the staple trade of the town at this very day consists in making the largest seans and nets of all kinds used in the British fishery. This place likewise is peculiarly noted for the mackarel which are caught here, in the proper season by the fishermen, in such prodigious numbers, that proper watches have

have been set to prevent the farmers in the parts adjacent from making use of them as manure, which, as they imagine, may possibly infect the air, and by consequence prove fatal, not only to themselves, but to all their neighbours round about them.

P. What have you particularly remarkable in the parts adjacent to Wingford-Eagle?

T. In a ground near that place, called *fen-down*, there is a barrow, which some few years ago was opened and searched. On the first removal of the earth, the workmen found it full of large flints, but at last, in the prosecution of their work, they came to a place in every respect like an oven, which had been clayed all round in a very artful manner, wherein they found a great variety of urns most exquisitely wrought; but the circumstance which we imagine most pertinent to our present purpose, and most worthy the attention of the curious is this; namely, that when one of the labourers put his hand into the oven, as soon as it was discovered, he was obliged to draw it back directly, being incapable of enduring the heat thereof; and several others after him making the same attempt for the gratification of their curiosity,

curiosity, peremptorily asserted, that it was not enough in reason for the baking of a batch of bread. Not far from this ground called Fern-down, in an inclosure, stand nine stones in a circular form; and about half a mile further three more, which likewise demand the attention of the curious. These are all of different sizes, but the highest is seven feet or thereabouts; each of which is by most people imagined to be a lump of flint.

P. What is there farther remarkable on the Bridport shore?

T. The bank of gravel and pebbles, which is thrown up there, and called the Chesil, with a narrow sea between that and the shore. This bank continues for seven or eight miles together, by which shalf of sand, Portland, which was formerly an island, is now joined to the continent.

P. What is the etymology, pray, of the name of this peninsula?

T. Camden seems somewhat dubious in that particular: some, however (says he) imagine that it is called Portland, from its being directly over-against the port called Weymouth: but the most probable conjecture

his opinion, is, that it derives its name from one Port, who was a gallant Saxon, and greatly annoyed this coast, about the year of our lord 523, and took possession of this commodious spot of ground as an asylum, for retreat, for himself and his fellow pirates.

P. Of what circumference is that peninsula?

T. Notwithstanding the place is small, and thinly inhabited, and not above ten miles round; yet it affords a profusion of corn, and very commodious pasture for sheep; wood and coal, however, are such scarce commodities there, that the inhabitants are obliged to make use of cow-dung dried in the sun for fuel.

P. Of what profession are the inhabitants in the most part, and in what do they particularly excel their neighbours?

T. For the generality they are stone-cutters, and, like the antient Baleares, in the Mediterranean Sea, were formerly the best sailors throughout the kingdom of England; and moreover, their road, called Portland-road, affords a very commodious harbour for ships in tempestuous weather. 'Tis very dangerous, however, to pass over their race, where the two tides meet with very violent

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furges of the waves) notwithstanding the weather prove ever so calm.

P. What is the principal commodity of this peninsula?

T. Our best and whitest free-stone comes all from thence: with this, not only the cathedral of St. Paul; but the monument likewise, and all the most magnificent edifices in the city of London are principally built.

P. Is there nothing besides worthy the observation of the curious?

T. Yes; not only the quarries from whence those stones are dug; but the various shells of oysters, cockles, muscles, &c. which are to be met with there in abundance. Those, however, which are commonly called screws, and to be found every where in this stone, are of a size and form beyond any thing that is to be met with in any other part of the British dominions.

P. Are these spiral shells, or screws, as you call them, taken out of the stone, without any difficulty attending the operation?

T. No; they are very seldom to be extracted whole.

P. Why so?

T. Because

T. Because they are very brittle, as they are of the same substance, and most commonly break in the extraction.

P. Are these screws solid or hollow?

T. Perfectly solid, and are so nicely coiled or twisted about an imaginary axis, that they form a bore as equal and regular, as that of a capillary glass tube.

P. Are there, in this island, no other stones, but the white free-stones you just mentioned?

T. Yes; in some quarries, particularly those that lie on the south-west part, there are found stones which may, with very good reason, be termed sugar-candy stones; some whereof are pale, indeed; but others brown; and it must be acknowledged, that they so nearly resemble sugar-candy in the lump, that any one may with ease be imposed upon by them, till he is fully convinced both by his tongue and teeth.

P. Pray, what may those sugar-candy stones, as you call them, be?

T. Nothing more than an insipid exudation of juices, which are petrified, chrysalized, and candied up by nature, in the manner and colour described.

P. Is the land there high or low?

Z 2

T. So

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T. So high, that when the weather is clear and serene, one may see above half way over the channel to France, notwithstanding 'tis very broad here.

P. As you have given me a sufficient account of the peninsula, pray oblige me with your observations on that part thereof which is commonly called its Race?

T. The sea off this peninsula, but more especially to the west of it, is looked upon to be the most dangerous part of the British channel; for due south there is almost one continued disturbance of the waters, on account of the two tides which meet there.

P. What do you mean by the two tides there?

T. Nothing more than the sets of the currents from the French coast and the English shore.

P. Wherein, pray, does the danger of the Race principally lie?

T. Too many ships, not fully apprized of these currents, have frequently been embayed to the west of the peninsula, and have been driven ashore upon the riff of beach there where they have been absolutely lost.

P. Have there not been proper measures taken to prevent these fatal accidents?

T. Yes

T. Yes ; in order to direct such marine.^s as are too little on their guard, there has been for some considerable time a light-house erected on each point of that peninsula, which are, doubtless, of singular service, and, in a great measure, answer the end proposed.

P. Is there any thing remarkable to be seen near this light-house ?

T. Yes ; something very surprising ; for on the south side of the peninsula there is such a prodigious hole, very visible through the earth, and wide at top, though contracting, indeed, about seven or eight feet downwards, that it opens into a large subterranean cavern, where the waters of the sea are to be clearly seen ; which, in tempestuous weather, present both the eye and the ear with tremendous sensations.

P. How large may that cavern be ?

T. Of that extent, that some of the small craft have been driven within it, though their sails have been up, and plainly seen through the hole.

P. As you mentioned just before a dangerous riff of beach, where ships were frequently lost, pray oblige me with some account of it ?

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T. Notwithstanding Portland stands at least a whole league from the main-land of Britain; yet it is almost joined thereto by that riff of beach; that is to say, of small stones cast up by the sea, which runs from the peninsula so near the English shore, that people ferry over with a boat and a rope; the water being very little more than half a stone's throw over.

P. How far, pray, may that riff of beach extend?

T. From that inlet of water, it turns away west, and runs parallel with the shore, as far as Abbotsbury, which is no less than seven miles beyond Weymouth.

P. How is that small ferry, or inlet of water, which you speak of, situate?

T. On the inside of the above-mentioned beach, and between that and the land.

P. Where does it open?

T. At about two miles west, where it grows broad, and makes a kind of lake, within the land, of about a mile and an half broad, and near three miles long.

P. Is there any thing worthy of the attention of the curious in that lake?

T. Yes; at the farther end of it, there is a large decoy; and on the verge of the water,

water, there are proper groves and trees for the commodious shelter of the fowl. In the broad part of it, there is, moreover, the largest swannery throughout Great-Britain; in which open part of the lake, those fowl live, feed and breed; and the number of them is so great, that sometimes 7 or 8000 of them are seen in a flock together, and great numbers of them likewise are frequently seen on the wing, and that too very high in the air.

P. What would you infer from thence?

T. That those birds fly over the riff of beach before mentioned, which separates the lake from the sea, in order to find out some agreeable provisions on the shores.

P. Is there not another island not far distant from Portland?

T. Yes; that of Purbeck, which was formerly full of heath, woods and forests; and plentifully stored with fallow-deer and stags; and notwithstanding it must be allowed, that it is not so stocked at present; yet towards the southern part of it, the land is very good; and besides, there are here and there, underground, not only veins of marble, but such a quantity of various sorts of good and substantial stones, that the cathedral church of
Salisbury

Salisbury was wholly erected therewith; and great quantities of it, moreover, are frequently conveyed from thence to London, to the no small emolument and advantage of the inhabitants, who are daily employed in the quarries where they are found.

P. Though you call this place an island, is there not as just a reason for calling it a peninsula as that of Portland?

T. Doubtless there is; for there is a good passage through into it, without crossing any water at all.

P. What is the circumference of it?

T. It is ten miles long, indeed; but very little more than five or six broad.

P. How is it bounded?

T. On the south and east with the British sea; on the north with the river Frome; and on the west with a moorish lake, which runs into the Frome, and is commonly called Luxford-lake.

P. How is the soil of this peninsula?

T. Though at the first entrance into it the ground is both heathy and barren; yet it is well stocked with red deer. The other grounds, however, which are parted from the former, with almost one continued ridge of very high hills, are of a much better nature,

DORSETSHIRE. 215

ture, and afford extraordinary pasture, not only for sheep, but food for other cattle, and a profusion of good corn. In some parts of it likewise large quarries are to be met with of solid substantial stone, and here and there mines of blue and parti-coloured marble.

P. Is there nothing farther remarkable near this peninsula?

T. Yes; the bank of the sea towards the east of it, winds very much inward, and finding a narrow inlet or passage, widens itself into a bay of great breadth. And to the north of it, in another peninsula, not far distant from it, is a fine sea-port town called Poole, which is surrounded every way with water, to the north only excepted, where it joins to the continent.

P. From whence did that sea-port derive its name?

T. In all probability from the bay below it, which, when the weather is perfectly serene, looks just like a standing pool.

P. For what is that sea-port peculiarly remarkable?

T. As there is not a sufficient depth of water at Wareham, this town, through the great resort of ships thither, is become, not only the most considerable town in the whole county,

county, but in all that part of England. For the generality there are a great number of ships riding at anchor there; but what is still more worthy of notice is, that there are a great number of vessels likewise, which are annually fitted out to the Newfoundland fishery.

P. What is there remarkable in regard to the bay you just mentioned?

T. Why this; that a little below Wareham, it receives the waters of the two principal rivers of the county, namely the Frome and the Piddle.

P. Is there any thing worthy of attention in Luxford-lake?

T. Yes; in the arm of the sea there, the tide ebbs and flows four times in four and twenty hours. This place is, moreover, very remarkable for its profusion of makarel in the usual season, and great plenty likewise of other good fish, wherewith it supplies all the inland parts of the county of Somerset; but 'tis still more peculiarly noted for the finest oysters in all this part of England, which are looked upon to be far preferable to any others in regard to pickling. It is very observable likewise, that these oysters have more pearl in them, and are larger than any

any others that are to be met with throughout the whole kingdom. They are barrell'd up in large quantities; and not only sent from hence to London, but to Spain, Italy, &c. and even to the West-Indies.

P. Are there any other commodities exported from this place?

T. Yes; not only great quantities of corn and pulse, but of Purbeck stone likewise.

P. What, pray, was the remarkable occurrence that happened at this place in the year 1653?

T. We are credibly informed that a shower of blood fell down in this town, on the 20th of June in that year, from a black cloud, which tinged all the leaves of the Trees: whereabouts with red; several of which were sent to London and divers other places, and were at that time looked upon, by such as were Virtuosi, as very valuable curiosities.

P. Was not that extraordinary occurrence looked upon as ominous?

T. Yes; by the common people, and absolutely declared a manifest indication of some impending judgment.

P. Did any dreadful calamity befall the kingdom of England about that time according to their apprehensions?

T. No;

T. No; their furnishes were all idle and groundless; but on the contrary, the whole nation lived in peace and plenty for many years afterwards.

P. What then may naturally be inferred from such a popular story?

T. That credulity in an historian, is of pernicious consequence; that superstition is a vain and idle thing; and that the mistakes which are grounded on it, are ridiculous and absurd; and lastly, that the fact was so far from being true, that there never was such a thing throughout the whole world as a shower of real blood.

P. How is the soil in the western part of this county?

T. It is very fertile at the rise of the river Frome; and Blackmore-forest, commonly called the forest of White-hart, was once very well wooded, though at present, indeed, 'tis naked enough. However, still 'tis a very commodious place for hunting.

P. From whence, pray, did it assume that new title of White-hart forest?

T. The inhabitants have a tradition concerning it, which seems natural enough; namely, that king Henry III. hunting once upon that particular spot, and having run
down

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N^o 8

down several deer, was pleased to spare the life of a milk white hart, which was afterwards taken by T. de la Linde, a gentleman residing in this county, and some of his sporting companions.

P. What was the consequence of that rash action?

T. His majesty so highly resented the indignity, that he punished them very severely for their folly and presumption; he made them pay an annual fine as long as he lived, which was commonly called white-hart-silver.

P. As you have told me that Portland and Purbeck are the principal places from whence we have the most solid and substantial stones; are there no other stones to be met with in this county?

T. Yes; some of different colours, and fit likewise for stately buildings. Here are white, red and grey stones, all proper for that purpose; but then there is another sort besides, which though much softer, is very excellent for some particular uses, such as to make Plaister of Paris, &c.

P. Are there not in this county several sorts of earths, as well as stones, that have their peculiar uses?

N^o 8.

A a

T. Yes;

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T. Yes; several that are dispersed up and down; but the Tobacco-pipe-clay, which is dug up about Poole and Hunger-hill near Wareham, is so remarkably useful, and of so excellent a nature, that large quantities of it are sent to Chester, London, and divers other places.

P. Were not the materials of which calc-anthum, otherwise called copperas, first found out in this county?

T. Yes; One James Baron of Mountjoy who was a very curious naturalist, found them out a little below Cranford, and made the attempt; but what progress he made therein, or whether his project answered his expectations or not, I cannot absolutely determine.

P. Is not the coast of this county very dissimilar?

T. Yes; and the reason of it is, because in some places it is bounded with high lands and cliffs, and in others with nothing but a beach of pebbles.

P. Of what are those cliffs composed?

T. In some parts of sand, earth and clay; but in others they principally consist of chalk. And some again, particularly those in the islands, of stone.

P.

P. Is there nothing peculiarly remarkable in regard to the bay between Weymouth and the isle of Purbeck?

T. Yes; 'tis a very fine and spacious one; and the water there is so deep, that the largest merchant-ships come to this port, and find a very commodious harbour; and not long since there was an instance of a whale's coming so near the shore at Weymouth before-mentioned, as to be left on the sands at low water.

P. Can you oblige me with a particular description of it?

T. Yes; though it was but a young one, it was near threescore feet in length; its head was remarkably large, and by no means proportionable to its tail; that being as singularly small. The upper jaw-bone, which only measured about fourteen feet in length, was between five and six feet over, and two or three feet deep, consisting, on the lower part, of several long broad bones, like twelve-feet planks, and in the whole, it bore the resemblance of an old weather-beaten wherry. The skull, on the inside, measured between three and four feet, and the hole for the egress of the spinal marrow was at least six inches over. The vertebræ of the back-bone were

extreamly large, one of them measured near twelve inches in length, and was twelve in thickness. The form of it was nearly cylindric. The tail (as I observed before) was surprisngly small, and no ways in proportion to the other parts of its body; for in the widest part of it, the admeasurement was no more than eleven feet; and there are some fishes, not twenty feet in in length, that have wider tails.

P. What curious productions are to be met with, pray, in the cliffs near Bridport?

T. Several of the fossil kind, and large quantities, if I am not misinformed, of copperas-stone; but the cornua ammoni are exceedingly beautiful; for they are overlaid with a gold-like mundic, are very regular and very perfect. Here likewise are taken the largest prawns and shrimps, perhaps, that are to be met with throughout the whole kingdom.

P. What curiosities are to be met with on the Dorset coast?

T. A greater variety of beautiful shells than in any other part, 'tis possible, between that and the Land's-end.

P. Are there not some curious plants peculiar to this county, as well as to those o-
thers

thers whereof you have already given me a particular account?

T. Yes; and as one Mr. Pike of Biddisford, a curious botanist, has taken the pains to collect them in alphabetical order, I shall take the liberty to give you a transcript of his list, which is as follows.

A CATALOGUE of PLANTS, in and near Dorchester, Blandford, Woodberry-hill, Beer, Wareham, Weymouth, Portland, Abbotsbury, Neatherbery, Charmouth and Chiddick, all in the county of Dorset.

Adders-tongue,
Agrimony,
Alexander,
Arsmart, hot,
——, cold,
Aaron,
Arrow-head,
Bank Cresses,
Bastard Balm, white
and red,
Bastard Gromell,
Bettony,

Berry-bearing Orach,
Bessom Moss,
Birds-nest,
Bitter Sweet,
Birds-foot, Great
Ditto, small,
Bishops-weed,
Black Henbane,
Ditto, Matfellow,
St. Bryone,
St. Fern,
Blood-wort,
A a 3 Brook.

Brook-lime,	Comfry,
Broad-leaved Rag-weed,	Cockle,
Branched Bur Reed,	Crowfoot,
Broad Plantain,	Cross-wort,
Broom,	Creeping Iron-wort,
Bugle,	Coltsfoot,
Branched Sea-Moss,	Columbines,
Bugloss,	Cowslips,
Bugloss Cowslips,	Creeping Mouse-ear,
Beter Bure,	—— John's-wort,
Borage,	Crow Garlick,
Butcher's Broom,	Corn Horse-tail,
Calamint,	Cuckow Flowers,
Calamus Aromaticus,	Corn Grass,
Cats-tail,	Cyprus Grass,
Cats-tail Grass,	Dogs Stones, white
Cammock,	and red,
Centory,	Darnell Grass,
Celandine,	Dittander,
Cinquefoil,	Dock Creasse,
Clowns Woundwort,	Dandelion,
Cocks-foot Grass,	Double Sope-wort,
Cotton Grass,	Dodder,
Cotton Groundsell,	Dutch Agrimony,
Corn Scabious,	Devils Bit,
Corn Marigold,	Dane-wort,
Crowfoot Treefoil,	Dwarf Mallow,
	Doves-foot,

Earth

Earth-nutt,	Golden Mouse-ear,
English Coraline,	Goose-foot,
Eye-Bright,	Great Water Dock,
Feather-top Grass,	Golden Maiden-hair,
Fern Grass,	Ground Moss,
Female Fools Stones,	Ground Liver-wort,
—— Royal Saty- rion.	Grass Wracke,
Field Mustard,	Glass-wort,
Flowering Sea-Plan- tain,	Great Wild Thyme,
Fine Chickweed,	Great Gromel,
Female Pimpernel,	Great Chickweed,
Fern Moss,	Great Daisie,
Flower Branched	Great Fig-wort,
Moss,	Great Matfellow,
Fluellen,	Great Knapweed,
Fox-glove,	Great Bur Dock,
Fennel,	Great Marsh Mari- golds,
Fumetory,	Golden Saxifrage,
Female Fern,	Ground Ivy,
Flat-headed Globe	Gout-wort, or White Ash,
Thistle,	Goose Grass,
Great Water Grass,	Hedge-hog Grass,
Great Fox-tail Grass,	Hairy Grass,
Great Bastard ditto,	Hairy Wood Grass,
Galingale,	Hooded Matweed,
Groundsel,	Hair Blue Bells,
	Harts-

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Harts-horn Plantain,	Lady Tracis,
Hedge Hyſop,	Leſſer Spotted Fools
Horehound,	Stones,
— — —, ſlinking,	Lady Smocks,
Hedge Nettle,	Lambs Lettuce,
Hounds-tongue,	Looſe Strife,
Hearts Eaſe,	Long Leaved Sen-
Hop Trefoil,	green,
Hart Trefoil,	Little Silver Knapp-
Herb Robert,	weed,
— Bennet,	Leſſer Burdock,
Hemlock,	Ladies Bedſtraw, red,
Horſe-tail,	white and yellow,
Hawkweed, 13 ſorts,	Lady Thistle,
Harts-tongue,	Matweed,
Hedge Chervil,	Marſh Dogs Stones,
John's-wort,	Male Fools Stones,
Iron-wort,	Male Royal Satyrion,
Kneed Graſs,	Marſh, Ditto,
— Water Graſs,	Mercury,
Knotty Dogs Graſs,	Mouse-tail Plantain,
Knotted Dandelion,	Mountain Flax, or
Knotted Sheeps Sorrel,	Mill-mountain,
Knott Graſs,	Mil-wort, purple, red,
Knotted Parſley,	blue, and white,
Kings Claver, or Me-	Mountain Pink,
lilott,	Marſh Chickweed,
Lady Lace Graſs,	Money-wort,
	Mouse-ear,

Mouse-ear,	thistle,
Mother-wort,	Purple Trefoil
Middle Scabious,	— Cammock,
May-weed, or Wild	Quiver Grass,
Camomile,	Queen of the Mea-
Mullin,	dow,
Master-wort,	Red Dwarf Grass,
Mug-wort,	Rush Hard Grass,
Madder,	— Water Grass,
Male-fern,	Ramsons,
Maiden-hair,	Ragweed of the Wa-
Monk's Rhubarb,	ter,
Nettles, 3 Sorts,	Red Poppy,
Oak-moss,	Rib-wort,
Pearl-Grass,	Rose Rib-wort,
Plantain,	Red Campion,
Parsley-break-stone,	Rush Pink,
Portland Sengreen,	River Chickweed,
Peter's-wort,	Rew-leaved Whitlow
Pimpernel,	Grass,
Purple-Money-wort,	Red Valerian,
Party-colour'd Horfe	Red Archangel,
Mint,	Red Rattle,
Primrose,	Red Yarrow,
Plowmans Spikenard,	Small Hard Grass,
Perwinkle,	Small Fox-tail Grass,
Polypody,	— Bastard, Ditto,
Prickly-head Globe-	Stitch-wort,
	Spotted

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Spotted Dogs-stones,	Sampier,
Small Wild Mustard,	Small Gromel,
Sea Rag Weed,	Small Chickweed,
Shepherds Purse,	Sea Chickweed,
Small, Ditto,	Snail Grass-wort,
Sea Orach,	Speed-well, or Veronica,
Scorpion Grass,	Spatling Poppy,
Sharp-pointed Dock	Scabious,
Sorrel,	Sage alone,
Sheeps, Ditto,	Sanicle,
Snake-Weed,	Smallage,
Small, Ditto,	Shepherds Needle,
Spoon-wort,	Sea Wormwood,
Sea Lavender,	Teasell,
Sea Star-wort,	Toothed Moss,
Sea Lung-wort,	Tormentil,
Sea Oak, or Wrake,	Thistle upon Thistle,
Sea Thongs,	Violets, white and
Sea Thrift,	blue,
Sea Girdles,	Vipers Bugloss,
Sea Fennel,	Vervain,
Sea Plantain,	Wood Rushy Grass,
Swines Cresses,	White Hair Bells,
Sope-wort,	White Coraline,
Spurge,	White Daffodil,
Sea Spurge,	Wild Garlic,
Sea Spurflane,	Water Cresses,
Sea Penny-wort,	

Water

Water Parsnep,	Wood, Ditto,
Water Scorpion	Wild Angelica,
Grass,	Wild Parsley,
White Wind Flowers,	Wild Nigela,
White Champion,	Wormwood,
Wall Pepper,	Wood Horse-tail,
Water Penny-wort,	White Maiden-hair,
Wall, Ditto,	White Cotton Thistle,
Wild Thyme,	Wolfe Claw Moss,
Water Mint,	6 or 7 Feet long,
Water Calamint,	Yellow Daffodil,
Water Horehound,	Yellow Horn-poppy,
Water Agrimony,	Yellow Archangel,
Water Bettony,	Yellow Fig-wort,
White Archangel,	Yellow Water Lilly,
White Ox-Eye,	Yellow Trefoil, and
White Bindweed,	Yellow Cammock.
White Water Lilly,	
White Cinquefoil,	

P. As you have now given me a satisfactory account of all the curiosities of the county, I should be glad to hear what character the inhabitants of it for the generality bear.

T. The character of them, (both ancient and modern) I shall extract from an accu-

accurate survey thereof, published from an antient manuscript, written by the reverend Mr. Croker, formerly of Mapowden in the said county.

“The antient inhabitants (says he) were the Durotriges, who lived under the government of the Romans. Afterwards when the Saxons had made themselves lords of this kingdom, it fell under the jurisdiction of the west Saxons, whose kings often resided at Corfe, a castell in the isle of Purbeck; but the Normans, driving them out, possessed their places, who as in all other countries, consisted chiefly of gentrie; and commonlie the gentlemen for the most parte are of antient descent and their houses either by succession or match, have a long time continu'd in the same name or blood. Soe that I cannot generally complaine, as one doth of another shire, that the gentrie were of no antient stockes. Besides to their blood, they add many good graces and qualities, as learning, and humanitie, which tho' some thing remote, they bring from the universities. Moreover, they are endow'd with much friendship one towards another which hath been the cause of their frequent

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gent matching amongst themselves; soe as they are for the most parte in some degrees of consanguinitie allied: yet are not the bonds of affinitie and neighbourhoode soe strong, as to tie them onlie to themselves; but their humanitie extendeth even unto strangers, unto whom they are generallie noted to bee verie kinde, and to shew them accordeing to their degrees both respects and courtesies; from the gentles, I will come to the merchant, who, with fishermen, inhabite the maritime townes. The inland townes are inhabited by tradesmen, who, soe abound therein, that they furnish themselves and their neighbouring counties with what France, Spaine, and East-land afforde; by reason of the great quantities of cloth made in the chiefe towne of Dorsetshire, Wareham, and other places of this countie.

From the merchant, I will descend to the commons, who are commonly copyholders, and by their customs are, tied to doe many services unto their lords. Some of them are free-holders, whome we from the Saxons (yemen) call yeomen: but these and the rich farmers, who are those that

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take

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take demesnes of gentlemen at a rack-rent, (for that is the manner of this county) doe now begin much to encroach upon the gentry; and from them, divers times, issue families of note."

As to the modern Dorsetshire gentry, they are very much like the soil they live on, open, free, and generous; full of life and spirit; good artists and mechanics in general, and their heads well turn'd to trade and merchandize; as appears by the many large and flourishing towns of trade, especially near the sea-coast; they are gay and polite at the same time, very studious and lovers of science in every shape; and consequently no great friends to superstition.—Tho' there is no general rule without an exception.—In short, you nowhere breathe a finer air, nor converse with a better set of people.

ADDITIONAL



ADDITIONAL REMARKS.

REMARK I.

THIS county contains 34 hundreds,
22 market-towns, 248 parishes,
6 castles, 25,000 houses, and
132,000 inhabitants.

REM. II.

It now gives title of duke and earl, tho' formerly that of earl only, to the family of Cranfield Sackville.

R E M. III.

Its church-government is divided into five deanries, viz.

Deanries.		Parishes.
Bridport,	Containing	48
Dorchester,		45
Whitchurch,		55
Pimpern,		32
Shafton,		56

The archdeacon of Dorset has the jurisdiction of the whole diocese of Bristol, in which this county is entirely included.

R E M. IV.

This county sends twenty members to parliament, whereof two are knights of the shire, and two for each of the following towns, viz.

Dorchester,	Containing	Wareham,
Lime-Regis,		Corfe Castle,
Bridport,		ool,
Weymouth,		And
Melcomb-Regis,		Shaftesbury.

Dorchester

R E M. V.

Dorchester is 97 computed, and 123 measured miles from London. It was formerly the most considerable station of the Romans in these parts. It had two mints in the time of the Saxons, and a castle which was demolished by the Danes; but after the Norman conquest, a new one was erected, of which the greatest of the barons used to be governors.

R E M. VI.

Here are three churches, a town-hall, a shire-hall, and the county goal, with its chapel. 'Tis a common saying amongst the inhabitants, that St. Peter's church was founded

By one Geoffery Van,
With his wife Anne,
And his maid Nan.

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This, however, in all probability, is not real fact, but a vulgar error; for, from a large stone, with all the marks of antiquity, dug up here in a garden, about seventy years ago,

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with

236 ADDITIONAL REMARKS on

with the following inscription, viz. Sigillum Galfridi de Ann, it is conjectured, and that not without very just grounds, that the true founder was one Mr. Ann.

R E M. VII.

There are very few towns throughout the kingdom of England, that are either better paved, or better built; and the prospect of it is very delightful. On August the 6th, indeed, 1613, a dreadful fire happened here, which consumed two of its churches, and about 300 houses, the damage whereof amounted, as we are told, at a modest computation, to no less than 20,000 l. The church, however, and the houses have been all rebuilt long since; but what is most worthy of attention is this, namely, that there was not one single life lost in that general calamity. The streets are wide and clean, the inns there are large, and the markets and fairs very well frequented. The toll of both is vested in the corporation, who hold the manor of the borough at a fee-farm rent from the crown. King James I. empowered them to make choice of their own recorder; and by a charter granted them from king Charles

Charles I. they have a mayor, two bailiffs, six aldermen, and six capital burgesſes; beſides whom there is a governor annually choſe by twenty-four common-council men, whoſe principal employment conſiſts in looking after the trade of the town; here are likewiſe a free-ſchool and three alms-houſes; and the aſſizes and quarter-ſeſſions; as alſo the elections for the knights of the ſhire are held here.

R E M. VIII.

The Roman Ikening ſtreet, which enters this place by the north of Winterburn, at Weſt-gate, is evidently traced here; and the foundations of the Roman wall appear quite round the town; and notwithſtanding a ſtreet is built upon it on the eaſt-ſide, and the ditch itſelf is filled up; yet 'tis called the wall to this day. The Romans had an amphitheatre near it, which is now called Mawmbury, and the Terras upon it is a noted place of rendezvous, as there is a fine proſpect thereon, not only of the town, but of all the adjacent country. It was one of the winter ſtations of the Roman legions; and many Roman coins have been dug up here

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here, particularly King Dor's money, commonly called here Dorn-money.

R E M. IX.

This town is noted for its excellent beer and cakes, and it used formerly to send large quantities of malt to Bristol. It has lost, however, in a great measure its manufacture of broad-cloth, and its serge-trade, for which it was once peculiarly famous. Their sheep are at present the best and most advantageous commodity they have to boast of; for we are credibly informed, that no less than 600,000 of them are fed within six miles round the town. The downs there abound with thyme and other aromatic herbage, which is so nourishing, that their ewes, for the generality, bring two lambs; for which reason they are bought up by all the farmers of the eastern part of England, who carry them to Bedfordshire, Bucks, Oxfordshire, and to Kent and Surry; and even Banstead-downs, so famous for good mutton, are supplied from hence.

This

R E M. X.

This town, ever since the reign of king Charles I. has given title of marquis to the dukes of Kingston ; tho' once it gave that of countess, for her life only, to Mrs. Catherine Sedley, so created by king James II. who had so great a regard for her, as to make her his mistress.

R E M. XI.

This town has sent members to parliament ever since the original demand of burgessees, in the reign of king Edward I.

R E M. XII.

Its markets are on Wednesdays and Fridays ; and its five fairs on the days following, viz. February 2, May 2, Trinity-Monday, June 24, and July 5. The three last are peculiarly set apart for the sale of their sheep ; and on these days the town is thronged with strangers, who resort thither from all parts on that occasion.

Judge

R E M. XIII.

Judge Jefferys, after the rout at Sedgemoor, near Bridgewater, in the year 1685, held that bloody assize here, which is never to be forgotten; for several hundreds were condemn'd by the lump, and sent by cart-loads to Lymes, Taunton, &c. to be hang'd, drawn, and quarter'd; and at the same time, one John Tutchin, who wrote the observator in the reign of queen Ann, was sentenc'd to be whipt once a year thro' every market-town in the county; upon which he petitioned that merciless judge to be hang'd; the novelty whereof induced him to send him first a reprieve, and afterwards to procure him an absolute pardon.

R E M. XIV.

Lyme-Regis, or King's Lime, is 120 computed and 144 measured miles from London. It formerly belonged to Sherborn-abbey, but was annexed to the crown in the reign of king Edward I. who granted it the same privileges as Melcomb-Regis,

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and indeed as London itself, with a court of huffings; and freedom from all toll, lastage, &c. which were confirmed by Edward H. and HI. by king James I. Charles I. and by king William and Queen Mary.

REM. XV.

The corporation consists of a mayor (who is justice of peace during his mayoralty, and the year after, and in the third year both mayor and coroner) a recorder, fifteen capital burgesles, and a town-clerk. As the town lies on the declivity of a hill, the houses make a good shew one above another, and some of them are built with freestone, and covered with blue slate.

REM. XVI.

It had formerly a very flourishing trade to France, Spain, the Streights, Newfoundland, and the West-Indies, during which time the customs some years amounted to no less than 16,000 l. The merchants here have lately begun to trade in the pilchard-fishery.

This

R E M. XVII.

This place is noted for the landing of the duke of Monmouth on the 11th of June 1685, with only 100 men, brought over in a man of war of thirty guns only, and two other small vessels, with arms indeed for 4000 men; but as he was defeated, a great number of his party were executed here, and their limbs hung up in the most conspicuous parts of the town as a terror to evil-doers.

R E M. XVIII.

Its lists of members of parliament commences the twenty third of Edward I. In the year 774, the Saxon king Kinwulf gave land hereabouts to the church of Sherborn for the boiling of salt there to supply its necessities.

R E M. XIX.

Its market is on Fridays only; but it has the four following fairs, viz. February 2, and 24, May 2, and September 21.

R E M. XX.

Bridport is 115 computed and 145 measured miles from London. In the time of the Saxons it had a mint; it was created a borough by king Henry III. by whose charter Bridport was leased to the inhabitants, in fee-farm, for a small quit-rent into the Exchequer, collected by their bailiffs, and payable at Michaelmas; which is done at this day by the corporation, who, under the king, are lords of all the Borough, except some small manors in the possession, or claim, of the duke of Bedford, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Strangeways Horner, &c.

R E M. XXI.

It was incorporated by king Henry VII. and afterwards by queen Elizabeth and king James I. by whose charter two Bailiffs were to be annually elected out of fifteen capital burgesses; and the corporation were empowered to chuse a recorder and a town-clerk. It began to send members to parliament in the twenty third year of king Edward I.

R E M. XXII.

The quarter-sessions for the county are held in the town-hall once a year. Its market is on Saturdays only; but its fairs are on Lady-day, Holy Thursday, and Michaelmas-day.

R E M. XXIII.

Weymouth is 104 computed, and 132 measured miles from London. It is situated on the river Wey, from whence it derives its name, which falling into the sea here, divides this town from Melcomb-Regis. Considering the low situation of Weymouth, and its lying so near the sea, it is a clean, and an agreeable town enough. Here is a custom-house and a good quay.

R E M. XXIV.

The merchants drove a very considerable trade formerly from this port to France, Spain, Portugal, and the West-Indies; but it has since varied its channel, and the high duties on French goods have spoiled it in this, and all other parts on the south coast of England;

England; where, however, a very bad one prevails, which is a clandestine one, and carried on at the expence of the king and the fair merchant. The Newfoundland trade notwithstanding thrives here, and twenty ships are fitted out for it in some seasons. The wine trade is here also very considerable; and they have a large correspondence up in the country, for the consumption of their returns.

R E M. XXV.

This place first sent members to parliament in the twelfth of Edward II. after which, till united with Melcombe, it made but one return, viz. the nineteenth of Edward II. It gives title of viscount to the family of Thynne, at Longleat in Wiltshire.

R E M. XXVI.

This town and Melcombe make only one corporation and borough, with the exorbitant privilege of shufing as many representatives as the great metropolis of the kingdom; and every voter has privilege (as in London) to poll for four persons, who, when they are chosen, are returned in two indentures; the

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two first according to the number of votes, or their quality, under the title of burgesses of Weymouth; and the two others under that of Melcombe. The returning officer is the mayor, who may be nominated out of any part of the borough of Weymouth and Melcombe, as may the rest of the corporation, which consists of a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, twenty-four capital burgesses, and a number of aldermen uncertain, because once a mayor always an alderman. Some of the inhabitants go to Radipole church, which is a noted land, as well as sea-mark, where they bury their dead. Their markets are kept every Tuesday and Friday; and their fairs on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of June.

R E M. XXVII.

Melcombe-Regis is 106 computed, and 132 measured miles from London. It is situated at the mouth of the river Wey, by which it is parted from Weymouth. It appears from its name, to have been antiently the king's demesne, and from the records, to have paid quit-rent to the crown all along after king Edward I. till it was bought off

by the inhabitants, before they were united to Weymouth. It sent members to parliament in the reign of king Edward I. before Weymouth had that privilege; and it flourished so greatly in the reign of Edward III. that it was appointed a staple-town by act of parliament. In the following reign, however, the French burnt it, and it was by that means rendered so desolate a place, that the remaining inhabitants prayed, and obtained a discharge from the customs. On account of its quarrels with Weymouth, in the reign of king Henry VI. its privileges, as a port, were removed to Pool; but in that of queen Elizabeth, they were restored to it by act of parliament, which was confirmed in the next reign, on condition that Melcombe and Weymouth should make but one corporation, and enjoy their privileges in common; and to this was owing the flourishing condition of both. In the two reigns last mentioned, a wooden bridge, with seventeen arches, was built from hence to Weymouth, to which, as well as to its church, the chief contributors were certain citizens of London; and upon its decay, it was rebuilt some years ago at the joint expence of their representatives, Sir Thomas Hardy,

William Hervey, John Ward, and Reginald Marriot, Esqrs.

R E M. XXVIII.

Here is a good market-place and town-hall, to which the members of the corporation of Weymouth come to attend public business, as the inhabitants in general do to its church for public worship.

R E M. XXIX.

The port, which generally goes by the name of Weymouth, is said to be the best frequented in the county, and is defended by Sandfort and Portland castles, built by king Henry VIII.

R E M. XXX.

This town is reckoned bigger, more thriving and populous than Weymouth; they are both, however, as has been observed before, but one corporation and borough, and the market days and fairs are both the same.

Warham,

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R E M. XXXI.

Warham, or Wareham is 90 computed, and 108 measured miles from London. It arose, as the inhabitants will have it, out of the ruins of Stowborough, on the other side the river Frome. It was once a Roman town, and reckoned the oldest, if not the largest in all the county, it having at that time seventeen churches, though they are at present reduced to the three following, viz. St. Martin's, Trinity church, and St. Mary's, formerly a priory, the tower whereof is the principal ornament of the town.

R E M. XXXII.

It had heretofore a mint, with walls, and a castle by the water-side, built by William the Conqueror, and before the retreat of the sea from it, was a noted harbour.

R E M. XXXIII.

The royalty of this town was granted by king James I. to one Thomas Emerson; but after several sales, it was above forty years ago purchased of the Plucknet's family, by the

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the late general Eele, who settled it in trust for ever on the corporation for binding out poor children apprentices.

R E M. XXXIV.

The corporation, by a charter of queen Anne, consists of a mayor, recorder, and town-clerk, six capital burgesses, and twelve common-council-men their assistants. The mayor, by antient prescription, is coroner of the isles of Purbeck and Branksey, as well as of his own town, and has been the supreme magistrate here ever since Henry VI. By queen Anne's charter, the mayor, recorder, and preceding mayor are constituted justices of the peace (the two first of the quorum) and impowered to hold their own sessions.

R E M. XXXV.

It has suffered so much by wars (according to Cambrden) from the time of Henry II. and by fire, together with the loss of its haven, robbed from it by the sea, that 'tis almost quite run to ruin; and the soil, that was in the very heart of the town, produces great quantities of garlick.

Its

R E M. XXXVI.

Its principal trade consists in tobacco-pipe-clay, dug out of Hunger-hill; it has but two streets, and about 200 houses; it was remarkable, however, for the interment of Briatricus, the last of the West-Saxon kings, during the Heptarchy, and for that of St. Edward the Martyr, who was translated from thence to Shaftsbury.

R E M. XXXVII.

Members were returned to parliament for this borough, the thirtieth, thirty-third and thirty-fifth of Edward I. and the fifth and seventh of Edward II. but no more, till the second of Edward III. and from thence to the reign of Edward IV. after which the rolls are wanting to queen Mary's reign, from which they are continued, with some small defects, to this time. The mayor returns the members, who are chosen by the inhabitants (about 150) who have paid scot and lot.

R E M. XXXVIII.

It has a well-frequented market on Saturdays, the toll whereof belongs to the corporation; and the three fairs following, viz. April 6, June 24, and August 31.

R E M. XXXIX.

Corfe-castle (situate in the middle of the isle of Purbeck) is 39 computed, and 116 measured miles from London. It derives its name from a castle, which was supposed to have been built by king Edgar, who kept his court in this place: and as it was a royal demesne, great privileges were then granted thereto by that prince, and since by others of our monarchs. It has a large lofty church, which is a royal peculiar, exempt from all episcopal jurisdiction or visitation; and has a chapel of ease, about a mile off, belonging to it, called Kingston chapel.

R E M. XL.

It was a borough by prescription; but first incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and afterwards by king Charles II. with the style of mayor

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mayor and barons, enjoying the same privileges as the cinque ports; and this in particular, that the chief members, especially those who have been mayors, are called barons. The mayor, and so likewise is his predecessor, is a justice of peace, can hold sessions, chuse coroners for life, counsellors, ale-tasters, &c. which were privileges granted by king Charles I. as a reward for the noble defence that castle had made for him.

R E M. XLI.

The lord of the manor is by inheritance lord lieutenant of the isle of Purbeck, has power to appoint all officers, to determine all actions by his bailiffs and deputies, has all shipwrecks in the isle, and a freedom from the court of admiralty. This manor continued in the crown from the conquest till Edward VI. gave it, with other manors, to his uncle, the duke of Somerset, on whose attainder it reverted to the crown; but queen Elizabeth disposed of it to Christopher Hatton, Esq; in whose family it continued till the reign of king Charles I. at which time it was sold to the lord chief justice Banks, who repaired the castle, and made it a garrison

rison for that king; but it was betrayed to the parliament's forces, who not only plundered, but demolished it. The ruins of the walls which were very large (the circumference of the site of the castle being near half a mile) retain great marks of the strength and grandeur of this stately fort; and their situation on an high eminence makes them visible at a considerable distance. It appears, that both this town, and Bishop's castle in Salop were indebted to the interest of the abovementioned Mr. Hatton, for the privilege of sending members to parliament; and this was a precedent for other gentlemen in the reign of queen Elizabeth, to procure the same privilege for other small boroughs in Cornwall, Wiltshire, Hampshire, &c. where it has been exercised ever since.

R E M. XLII.

Its market is held only on Thursdays; and its fairs are two only, viz. on May-day and St. Luke's day.

R E M. XLIII.

Purbeck, it is true, is called an island; but without any just reason; for there is no river that

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that disunites it from the continent. However, as it is encompassed by the sea on every side, the west only excepted, where the Frome river joins the Langford lake, 'tis thereby made a peninsula. 'Tis about ten miles long and six over, and better inhabited than the sea coast generally is in this west part of the county.

R E M. XLIV.

Its principal manufacture is stockings. It was antiently a barony; and in the reign of king James I. gave the title of viscount to John Villers, the elder brother of George duke of Buckingham, that king's favourite; but his son dying without issue, the title became extinct with him.

R E M. XLV.

Pool (so called from its being surrounded, except on the north, by Luxford lake) is 88 computed, and 110 measured miles from London. It was a borough in the reign of king Edward II. In the reign of Edward III. it twice sent members to parliament, but afterwards we find no returns for many years,

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till Edward IV. When king Henry VI. disfranchised the port of Melcombe, he transferred that privilege to this place, and gave the mayor leave to enclose it with walls, which king Richard III. began at the haven. By the resort of ships hither, for want of a sufficient depth of water at Wareham, this is become the most considerable town throughout the whole county.

R. E. M. XLVI.

The government of this town is by a mayor, (who is always chosen out of the burgesses on the Friday before St. Matthew's day) a recorder, aldermen, a sheriff, a coroner, a town-clerk, bailiffs, and common-council-men. Its houses are but low, but most of them built with stone. Its church, which is a royal peculiar, whereof the corporation are patrons, is large indeed, but then 'tis low and dark, and above 200 years old.

R E M. XLVII.

As this was antiently a hamlet of Canford, the manor was the king's demesne. It has been granted by our monarchs to the Fitzpains, the

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the Moncautes, earls of Salisbury, and other great families. The royalty, however, was vested by king Charles II. in Sir John Webb.

R E M. XLVIII.

By a charter of queen Elizabeth, no man can be made free of this town but by the election of the mayor, four aldermen, and twenty-four burgeses. That queen made it also a county of itself, and to have a sheriff, &c. with the privilege of trying malefactors, &c. within its own jurisdiction. This, however, the corporation does, by procuring a commission from the crown; otherwise the judges would come hither in their circuit from Salisbury to Dorchester. The mayor is escheator, clerk of the market, and admiral within the jurisdiction.

R E M. XLIX.

Here are a custom house and quay, a handsome town house of stone, and a large warehouse called the town cellar for putting in merchants goods. Here are alms-houses likewise, first erected in queen Elizabeth's time, by the donation of one Mr. Rogers, a wealthy

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citizen of London, and a good charity-
school.

R E M. L.

Its weekly markets are on Mondays and
Thursdays; the last of which was granted
by Henry VI. together with two fairs, viz.
one on St. Philip and Jude, and the other on
All Souls day, and seven days after each.

R E M. LI.

Shafton, or Shaftsbury, is situate on a hill,
in the post-road to Exeter, which has a pro-
spect into Wilts and Somerset, is 88 com-
puted, and 103 measured miles from Lon-
don.

R E M. LII.

This town is supposed to have been built
in the eighth century, and to have been en-
larged by king Alfred. It had ten churches
(besides a famous monastery) in the Saxons
time, but has now only four. King Edward
the Confessor was buried here. It had three
mints before the conquest, and in the reign
of

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of king Henry VIII. was the see of a suffragan bishop.

R E M. LIII.

It was incorporated by queen Elizabeth and king Charles II. and is governed by a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, bailiffs, and a common council.

R E M. LIV.

There are about 600 houses in the town, and a great number of them are built with free-stone. Water was formerly so scarce a commodity here, that the inhabitants were used to be supplied with it from Motcomb, in the liberty of Gillingham, on the backs of horses. As the wells there, from whence such supply of water, as abovementioned, was drawn, lay in a manor belonging to the late Edward Nicholas, Esq; the mayor and burgesses of Shafton, used (by way of acknowledgment) to dress up a prize-besom (as they call it) not unlike a May-garland, with peacocks feathers, and plate borrowed of the neighbouring gentry, and carry it to an adjacent green, about half a mile below the

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hill,

hill, and present it to the lord of the manor, together with a raw calve's head, and a pair of gloves, which were received by the steward, distributing at the same time twelve penny loaves among the people, and three dozen of beer. After the ceremony was over, the prize-besom was restored to the mayor, and carried back to the town by one of his officers, with great solemnity. This inconvenience, however, of fetching water at such a distance was in some measure remedied, and the town was more commodiously furnished therewith, in the year 1718, at the expence of William Benson, Esq; then one of its members in parliament, and since auditor of the imprests, by means of engines, which raised the water above 300 feet perpendicular, and conveyed it to a large cistern or reservoir, in the middle of the town, from the distance of two miles. But even this is at present laid aside, and the inhabitants have dug several pits at their doors, in which they preserve their rain-water; and the poor get their living to this day, by fetching it in pails, or on horses.

This

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R E M. LV.

This place gave the title of earl in the reign of king Charles II. to Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper, whom he at the same time made lord high chancellor, whose posterity still enjoy it.

R E M. LVI.

This borough has returned members from the very beginning of parliaments to this time; saving a defect in the reigns of king Henry VII. and VIII. and Edward VI.

R E M. LVII.

Its market is on Saturdays; and it has three fairs, viz. the Saturday preceding Palm-Sunday, Midsummer-day, and St. Martin's.

R E M. LVIII.

The other towns of most note, which are not parliamentary, are these that follow, viz.

Blandford,
Winburn,

Sherborn, and
Portland.

Blandford

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Blandford

R E M. LIX.

Blandford, which is an antient, and at present a large flourishing borough, with a bridge over the Stour, in the coach-road to Exeter, is 85 computed, and 107 measured miles from London.

R E M. LX.

It gives name to one of the five divisions of the county, and is governed by two bailiffs, chose annually out of the aldermen or capital burgessees. It has been twice burnt down by accident. First, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, but was soon rebuilt; and the the last time on June 4, 1731, when the fire was so quick, that few of the people saved any of their effects; and the small-pox being rife here, at the same time, many of the sick were carried from the flames into the fields, and died there. The town, however, has since been rebuilt in a more beautiful manner.

R E M. LXI.

Its principal manufacture formerly was band-strings, and afterwards straw-hats and bone-

DORSETSHIRE. 263

bone-lace; but at present malt and cloth. It gives title of marquis to the duke of Marlborough, and is frequented by many gentlemen, whose seats are situate on the adjacent downs. It sent members to parliament in the reigns of Edward I. and Edward III. but not since. The quarter-sessions for the county is held here once a year.

R E M. LXII.

Its market is on Saturdays; and its two fairs on February 24 and June 29.

R E M. LXIII.

At a small distance from this town is Blandford St. Mary's, which is the manor and seat of Mr. Pitt, a descendant of governor Pitt, who was called Diamond Pitt, and born there.

R E M. LXIV.

Winburn, otherwise called Wimborn-minster, is 82 computed, and 98 measured miles from London, and stands between the rivers Stour and Allen, which abound with fish. It was one of the Roman stations, and
had

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had the name of minster from its monastery, wherein the west Saxon king Ethelred (brother to king Alfred) was interred, who was slain by the Danes in the year 872. The monastery, however, was afterwards changed into a collegiate church, and new-built. The choir here is the only one in the country; and to it belong four singing-men, six singing-boys, and an organist. The church is a noble edifice, about 180 feet in length, built cathedral wise, with a fine tower in the middle, whereon stood a spire (taller, as some say, than that of Salisbury) which in the last century fell down, and another tower at the west end. The two towers are (each of them) ninety feet high.

R E M. LXV.

A very fine free-school was founded here by Margaret, countess of Richmond, mother to Henry VII. the stipend of which queen Elizabeth augmented, and annexed it to the foundation. 'Tis a very populous, but poor place, and its support is the knitting of stockings.

Between

R E M. LXVI.

Between Wimborn-minster and Cranborn there is a wood, called Harley; from which, and these two towns, ariseth the following proverb, viz. "when Harley is hareless, Cranborn whoreless, and Wimborn poorless, the world will be at an end".

R E M. LXVII.

Its market is on Fridays; and it has three fairs, viz. on Good-Friday, June 29, and September 3. On Good-Friday begins a cattle-market, which lasts seven weeks successively.

R E M. LXVIII.

Sherborn, which is 100 computed, and 118 measured miles from London, is an ancient town in the coach and post-road to Exeter, very large, and very much frequented. It is divided by the river Parret into two parts; one called Sherborn, and the other, the castle-town, in which latter are a church and a market.

The

R E M. LXIX.

The see of a bishop was fixed here in the year 704, by Ina, king of the West Saxons, in which there sat twenty-five bishops successively, till the eleventh century, when, after being united with the bishoprick of Sunning, it was removed to Sarum; whereupon this county was made a part of that diocese, till king Henry VIII. erected a new see at Bristol, to whose diocese it has belonged ever since. Soon after the translation of the see, the cathedral was converted into an abbey; the church whereof, which is a most magnificent structure both within and without, being the best in the whole county, and so much valued by the inhabitants at the reformation, that it is said, they bought it, and pulled down three churches and four chapels about the town, in order to preserve it. In a quarrel that happened formerly between the tradesmen and Monks, a great part of it was burnt, which the former were obliged to repair. At the entrance of it lie Ethelbald and Ethelbert, two of our Saxon king's; and in one of its isles is a sumptuous monument of John Digby, earl of Bristol (who died

died in 1698) which is reported to have cost 1500l. In the tower are six bells, so big, that they require near twenty men to ring them.

R E M. LXX.

This town was once the retiring place of William the Conqueror, and it belonged to some of his successors for several centuries. Roger, the third bishop of Salisbury, built a castle here, in that part, ever since, called Castle town; but king Stephen, incensed at the bishop's pride, seized it; and his successors kept it till the year 1350, when it was recovered from the crown by Robert Wyvil, a bishop of more courage than learning. This was the first castle that was formally besieged in the civil wars, and the last that held out for the king.

R E M. LXXI.

This town gave title of baron to John Digby, earl of Bristol, so created in the reign of king James I.

R E M. LXXII.

The number of the inhabitants are computed to be at least 20,000 souls, by which it appears to be more populous than any other town in the whole county. They had formerly a very good trade in the medley cloth, but now buttons, bone-lace, and most sorts of haberdashery wares, are their principal manufactures; with which they supply all the western parts of the kingdom.

R E M. LXXIII.

Here is a free school, founded by king Edward VI. and a fine alms-house, by Richard Beauchamp, bishop of Salisbury; and in the neighbourhood there are several very fine country-seats.

R E M. LXXIV.

Though it never had representatives in parliament; yet it sent William Turpin and two deputies to a council at Westminster, in the eleventh year of the reign of king Edward III. And it will ever be famous for the prince of Orange's being met here by
prince

prince George of Denmark, the dukes of Ormond, Grafton, Marlborough and many others of the prime nobility, on their deserting king James II. at Salisbury, and thereby restoring the constitution of Great Britain without blood-shed.

R E M. LXXV.

Its markets, which are plentifully supplied with all necessaries, are kept on Tuesdays and Saturdays; and its three fairs on July 7, August 10, and September 21.

R E M. LXXVI.

Portland, a peninsula opposite to Weymouth, was formerly an island; but is now joined (as it were) to the continent, by that shelf of sand called Chesil-bank, and yet is still called an island.

R E M. LXXVII.

It suffered very much heretofore from the Danes. Edward the Confessor, to shew his repentance for having accused his mother Emma wrongfully of incontinency with the bishop of Winchester gave the whole of

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it, and its revenues, to that cathedral; which was possessed thereof till the reign of king Edward I. when Gilbert de Clare, earl of Hertford and Gloucester gave other lands to the church in exchange for it; through whose heirs it came to the crown.

R E M. LXXVIII.

In the year 1632, it first gave title of earl to the Westons; as it did in the reign of king William III. to the Bentincks, a Dutch family, who, in the late reign, were advanced to the dignity of dukes of Portland. This town is thought worthy of a governor, who, for the generality, is a person of high extraction.

R E M. LXXIX.

The principal seats in this county are the twelve following, viz.

I. Eastberry, six miles from Shaftsbury, in the parish of Gunfield, alias Gunville, between Blandford and Cranborn chace, the seat of Mr. Doddington, member for Bridgewater, nephew to George Doddington, Esq; who was one of the lords of the admiralty in the reigns of king William and queen Anne; and

and left this gentleman, (then George Bubb, Esq; his late majesty's envoy in Spain) a very great estate, with an injunction to finish this seat, and to take his name and arms by act of parliament, as he has done. The house, which is one of the largest and most magnificent in England (the architect Sir John Vanbrugh) looks with its offices, at a distance like a little parish; and its gardens and park are eight miles in circumference.

2. The earl of Shaftsbury's, at Winburn St. Giles.

3. Mr. Portman Seymour's, at Breinton, near Blandford.

4. Mr. Brown's, at Frampton, near Dorchester.

5. The earl of Salisbury's at Cramburn-house.

6. Earl Powlet's at Buckland, seven miles from Dorchester.

7. Lord Walpole's, at Puddleton, on the river Piddle, near Beer.

8. Lord Digby's, at Sherborn-castle.

9. Mr. Strangeway's, at Melbury.

10. Mr. Wild's, at Lulworth-castle near Dorchester, much admired by king Charles the second.

11. The duke of Bolton's, at Hook-castle, ninety miles from thence.

12. Kingston-hall, not far from Winburn-minster, the seat of Mr. Banks, which has been valued at 10,000 l. only the mansion-house.



THE



THE
Natural Beauties
OF
SOMERSETSHIRE.

DIALOGUE IV.

BETWEEN

TUTOR and PUPIL.

PUPIL.

BY what name or title were the ancient inhabitants of this county known and distinguished?

TUTOR.

As the natives of Cornwall and Devonshire were styled by the Romans, in former ages,

ages, Dunmonii, and those who resided at the same time in Dorset were called both by them and the Greeks Durotroges (as we have hinted before in one of our former dialogues) so the antient inhabitants of Somersetshire were known and distinguished by the name of Belgæ, a people of Gaul.

P. From whence did they derive that appellation, and when did they first come over into Britain?

T. Though it be not perfectly clear from whence that appellation came; yet Mr. Camden is inclined to favour the opinion of those who derive it from the old Gaulish language, which our Welch (in a great measure) preserve entire, and who assure us, that the term Belgæ owes its original to the epithet Pel, the signification whereof is very remote.

P. As that derivation appears to me, at present, somewhat obscure and far-fetched, I hope I shall not be deemed troublesome or impertinent in desiring a farther explanation.

T. Your freedom in asking any information that I can give you, will never give the least offence. The epithet, however, will appear just and obvious enough, when you
are

are assured, beyond all contradiction, that the Belgæ were the most remote people in all Gaul, and at the greatest distance from the Roman provinces, not only with respect to their situation, but in point of humanity and good manners.

P. I thank you Sir, I am fully convinc'd of the reason that you have given me for their ancient name; but why, pray, are the present inhabitants of this place, called the natives of Somerset?

T. Some historians are of opinion, that the county bears the title or appellation, on account of the air in those parts being remarkably mild and gentle, and, as it were, a summer air; in which sense the Britons, at this very day distinguish it by the name of Gladerhaf, which bears exactly the same signification with our English term last mentioned. Others, however, and Camden in particular peremptorily assert, that it derives its present title from Somerton, which was formerly the principal, and most noted town throughout the whole county; and he grounds his affirmation on this, that one Asser, a very ancient and credible historian

rian calls it Somertun, wherever he has the least occasion to make mention of the place.

P. What is this county peculiarly remarkable for?

T. Not only for its being very extensive and very populous, but for its profusion of all the conveniencies of life.

P. As the soil of it, by consequence, must be very rich, pray how is it principally employed?

T. In grain and pasturage.

P. Are there any harbours of note in this county?

T. Yes, several; and those likewise very commodious ones.

P. Which are the principal?

T. On the Severn sea, those of Minhead, and Watchet; Camden, indeed, mentions Watchet and Portlock only as the two principal; but the latter, at present, whatever it might be formerly, is inconsiderable.

P. Give me some account then, in the first place of Minhead harbour.

T. 'Tis one of the most frequented passages to the kingdom of Ireland; and of late years is greatly improved by the catching

ing

ing of herring, which about Michaelmas come up the Severn in prodigious shoals; and when they are once caught and cured, they are sent from this town to several markets up the Mediterranean, and turn out to a very great account. And as a farther testimony of the importance of this harbour, a statute was made in the reign of king William III, for the recovering, securing and keeping it in repair, for the benefit and support of the navigation and trade of this kingdom.

P. What account can you give me of Watchet-Port?

T. It is but a little port at present, and has only seven or eight vessels belonging to it, which either trade in coals, or act as coasters to Bristol, where they supply the glass-houses with the ashes of sea-weed, of which abundance is burnt here for that particular purpose. Great quantities of alabaster which fall down the cliffs here by the wash of the sea, are sent from hence likewise to that city. The inhabitants, moreover, fetch vast heaps of pebble from the coast, and burn it into lime for dressing their lands; but principally for building; no cement being more durable for
masonry

masonry that is to lie under water, where it grows as hard as marble, and is generally known and distinguished by the appellation of terrafs.

P. Is there any thing worthy of notice to be met with on the rocks and pebbles which are wash'd by the Severn?

T. Yes; near old Cleve, which lies between Dunster and Watchet, there are great quantities found of the Lichen Marinus, or sea-liverwort, commonly called Laver, which the inhabitants gather, when the tide is out; and when they have cleansed and pickled it, send it to divers markets at a great distance.

P. What are the qualities that so highly recommend it?

'Tis not only very agreeable to the taste and very nourishing; but a very valuable anti-scorbutic likewise, and of excellent use by way of diet and medicine.

P. What is remarkable in regard to that ridge of hills which stand near Nettlecomb, and are known by the name of East-quan-tock-head?

T. That they turn through a rich country southward as far as the Vale called Taunton-Dean, and afford a prospect extremely

tremely delightful to the eye, by reason of its great variety of sea and land, of barrenness and fertility, to the greatest extent every way, of any other hills, perhaps, throughout the whole kingdom.

P. What is most observable at Start-point?

T. Two of the largest rivers in the whole county meet there, and empty themselves at one mouth, called by Ptolemy, the *Æstuary of Uzella*.

P. From whence did he give it that particular denomination?

T. From the river *Ivell*, which leaves that name before it reaches so far.

P. Where is its source or fountain-head?

T. In the county of Dorset, and on its first coming into the county, we are now speaking of, it gives name to a well frequented market-town called *Evill*, or *Yeo-vil*.

P. What is there peculiarly remarkable at *Camalet*, or *Camel*?

T. A steep mountain of a very difficult ascent, on the summit whereof is an area of twenty acres at least, if not more. The precipices here are, doubtless, great wonders of nature.

NUMB. X.

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P. What

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P. What is there observable at East Che-
nock?

T. A salt spring, notwithstanding it is a-
bove twenty miles distant from the sea: and
Dr. Highmore has assured the public, that
from one wine quart only of it, he procured,
by evaporation, fourscore grains of salt.

P. What is peculiarly remarkable at Taun-
ton?

T. That the town and all the country
round about it, is beautified with green mea-
dows, and abounds in delightful orchards and
gardens, which charm the eyes of every be-
holder.

P. What do the inhabitants of Taunton-
Dean, or the vale of Taunton, say of that
spot of theirs, which is about thirty miles in
circumference?

T. That it needs no manure for the im-
provement of it; for with the sun and soil
alone, it is sufficiently fertile.

P. What is peculiarly remarkable at So-
merton?

T. An adjacent moor, of 20,000 acres of
fine pasture ground, for the grazing of cattle
gratis, by such of the inhabitants as have a
right of common.

P. What

P. What is the principal support of that town at present?

T. Its markets and fairs for cattle; for to them the butchers resort from Bristol, Bath, Wells, Frome, Salisbury, Dorchester, and even from Winchester.

P. Were not the antient water-courses of the above-mentioned moor, by being close shut up, prejudicial, in some measure, to the inhabitants of the parts adjacent?

T. Yes; and for that reason there was a statute, made in the tenth year of the reign of king William III. for opening them, and making new ones, in order to render them, not only more healthful, but more advantageous.

P. What is peculiarly remarkable at Bridgewater?

T. Notwithstanding this town stands at about twelve miles distance from the Start-point, where the river Parret empties its waters into the Bristol channel; yet from thence a spring-tide flows twenty-two feet at least at the quay, and comes in with such an impetuous torrent, and such an astonishing noise, that 'tis called the Raging Boar. Ships of 200 ton frequently come up to its quay; by which conveniencies for navigation, the in-

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habitants carry on a pretty good coast trade to Bristol, to Wales for coals, and for slate to Cornwall, &c. for which purpose, twenty coal ships at least are constantly employed.

P. Is not the receipt of the customs here considerably high?

T. Yes; it amounts to about 300 l. per annum.

P. Do the merchants there carry on any considerable trade abroad?

T. Yes; but principally to Portugal and Newfoundland.

P. What commodity in particular is brought to this town in large quantities from Ireland?

T. Wool.

P. Do they carry on any considerable retail trade in this town?

T. Yes; they deal largely in corn, cattle, hogs and sheep; and scarce any market town throughout the whole kingdom of England is better supplied with the best of cheese.

P. Are not all provisions in general here extremely cheap?

T. Yes; and in so remarkable a manner, that this fertile spot may, with propriety enough, be termed a Paradise for Epicures.

P. What

P. What are the particular commodities which the inhabitants of Bruiton, or Bruton principally trade in?

T. Serges, stockings and malting.

P. What is there peculiarly remarkable at Alferd?

T. A mineral water, of a purging nature, no ways inferior to those at Epsom, or any other medicinal waters whatsoever. And this water is so universally esteemed, that it proves of great benefit to the western parts of England; since 'tis carried from thence to divers places very remote.

P. What is peculiarly observable at the town, called by the antient Britons, Yin-swytrin, which at present is known by the name of Glastonbury, or the isle of Avalon, famous for its apples?

T. A very remarkable hill called the Tor, from the tower that is erected upon it, and rears its head to a prodigious height.

P. What is there peculiarly growing on this hill, that renders it more famous than other hills?

T. The Holy-thorn, or Haw-thorn, and a Walnut-tree, that grew in the church-yard there, a particular account whereof has been exhibited by those learned antiquarians,

Mr. Hearne, Mr. Broughton, and Mr. Camden, which, tho' somewhat curious, are too prolix and superstitious to be here inserted.

P. What are the Mendippe hills, which run out a great way, both in length and breadth, peculiarly remarkable for?

T. Not only for the abundance of lead-mines which are found there, and for that reason formerly called minerary hills, but for the extraordinary pasture likewise which those hills afford. About the west end of this ridge of hills, there is found likewise large quantities of Lapis Calaminaris, of divers colours; as also several veins of Magnesia, or Mongonessie, and also some of yellow oker.

P. What is there more curious than ordinary to be met with on the south side of this ridge of mountains?

T. A famous triple grotto, called Ochie-Hole, or Wockey, but more commonly Okey-Hole.

P. Can you give me a description of that subterraneous cavern?

T. Yes; and as 'tis the most remarkable one in all the west of England, and much resorted to by strangers, I shall endeavour to gratify your curiosity with a short account of it:

it: The cave's mouth, then, is about thirty yards distant from the foot of the hill. The entrance is about fifteen or twenty feet, and not very narrow; it opens into a very large vault, like the body of a cathedral church; the upper parts whereof are very craggy, and abound with pendant rocks, which strike terror into a timorous spectator, especially as they appear by candle-light, by which they may be plainly discerned. From all parts of the rock there is a constant dripping of a clear water, in which, however, there is a large quantity of lapidescent particles. The bottom of this first vault on which you walk is extremely rough, slippery and rocky, abounding with irregular basons of water; there are none of those cones, however, that there were formerly, which then added greatly to the pleasure of that gloomy grotto. From the first you proceed, on a gradual descent, thro' a very narrow and uneven passage, into another large vaulted cavern, which, tho' not so lofty as the former, is very nearly as long and wide, and in all other respects much like it; from this you pass through a long, low, rocky passage, into a third vault, with a cylindric roof, and one side a fine sandy bottom to walk on, about fifteen or twenty feet wide; and

and on the other, there is a little stream or rivulet of water, extremely clear and cold, about eight or ten feet wide, and two or three deep. Some authors will tell you that this rivulet abounds with eels and trouts; but if that relation be matter of fact, it is very marvellous, and not easily to be accounted for. 'Tis very observable, that the loudest noise that twenty people could make in these hollow caverns, is not in the least audible to those who are on the outside of the hill, tho' directly over those below. The air of these caverns is likewise very cold and damp.

P. For what is the village Cheddar, which lies about five miles north-west of these subterraneous caverns, peculiarly remarkable for?

T. It is remarkable on two accounts; the first is with respect to the cheese that is made there, which doubtless excels, in high relish and delicate flavour, all other cheese whatever; for tho' that of Membury in Devonshire, and that called double Gloucester, are exceeding good; yet neither of them is comparable to that of Cheddar, in case 'tis kept to a proper age. Some gentlemen of taste will tell you, that it is equal at least, if not superior, to the Parmesan; but what makes
this

this place still more noted, is the stupendous chasın or cleft, quite through the body of Mendippe hill, which one would imagine had been split asunder by some violent shock of an earthquake. At the entrance of the clift there is a very remarkable spring of water, rising, as it were, upright, out of the rocky basis of the hill, and so large and rapid its stream, that it drives a mill within a few yards.

P. What is the surface of these hills principally covered with?

T. As the soil is very barren, it is in a great measure covered with heath, fern and furze, and consequently affords but very little food for any cattle.

P. Can you give me any account of Selwood-forest, which lies in the eastern part of this county?

T. Yes; its extent formerly was no less than fifteen miles in length, and six in breadth, insomuch, that in days of old, the adjacent country was called Selwoodshire. This wood was once very thick set with trees; but in process time, as it became a noted asylum for robbers and money-clippers, most of the trees have been cut down, in order to unharbour them.

P. Which

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P. Which is the principal town in this forest?

T. That called Frome Selwood, which is larger than some cities, and the number of its inhabitants is reckoned to amount to between 13 and 14,000 persons.

P. What is the principal maintenance and support of those inhabitants?

T. The woollen manufacture; and thirty years ago, more wire-cards for carding wool for the spinners, were made here than in all England besides. This town was formerly likewise noted for its most excellent beer, which, when kept to a great age, the gentry, for the generality, preferred it to the wines of France and Portugal: its malt liquors, however, at present are no better than other people's.

P. Can you oblige me with a particular account of the beauties of the Bath?

T. Yes; this antient city lies in a plain of a moderate extent, and is surrounded with hills, which form a kind of amphitheatre, and send down a great variety of salubrious springs. In the time of the Saxons, it was called Acmencesta, which in their language implied the city of infirm, diseased Men. When the baths here were first discovered is a matter

a matter entirely unknown; 'tis no ways to be questioned, however, but that they gave rise to the city; and in every age since they have occasioned a great resort of people, whose disorders could either be absolutely removed, or in any measure alleviated by their waters. This city, at present, indeed, is not so much an *Acmancesta*, as a city of pleasure, and modern grandeur; and is justly esteemed the most polite, gay, and agreeable place in the world; situate in the very bosom of the river Avon, with verdant meadows, rising hills, and a great variety of delightful walks all round about it. But what is still more valuable than all, is this, that the wretched and miserable part of mankind are here made happy on a threefold account; for they are either wholly delivered from their painful disorder, through the healing qualities of the waters of the different baths; or they are at least oftentimes greatly relieved; and have the advantage moreover, of being directed by the judgment and advice of the most eminent physicians.

The stone with which the fine buildings in this city are erected, is dug out of the quarries upon Charlton-down, and brought from thence down a steep hill, by a four wheeled

wheeled carriage, of such a particular structure, that it moves down hill with four or five ton weight of stone, with abundance of ease, and without the help of horses; and the motion is moderated by means of a friction lever, which bears more or less on the hinder wheel, as occasion requires.

Great quantities of the stone dug out of these quarries are sent by the Avon to Bristol, and from thence to London, the river Avon being lately, by an act of parliament, made navigable to that city by means of six several locks.

These quarries are now become very famous. The stone, indeed, is not quite so white and hard as that from Portland; but it is notwithstanding very useful in building, since it is easy to be wrought with edged tools, and fashioned in a lathe, for all the ornamental parts of architecture and statuary, &c. for which purpose there are several shops and artificers of great note constantly employed. Upon which account likewise this stone is sent to all parts of England. It must be allowed, however, that within a few miles of this city, there are some quarries of excellent stone, in regard to its fine white colour, solidity, and grain; and very
little,

little, if any, if any thing inferior to that of Portland; but as it lies at some considerable distance, and very deep, it is but little used in building, except it be upon the spot.

About a mile only west of this city, there is a quarry of hard stone principally used for mending of the roads. There are likewise frequently found here several very remarkable fossil substances; but more particularly divers sorts of shells, some whereof are very black and glossy, and very evidently grow here, the whole rock being a gradual petrification of the earth in that part, as is plainly demonstrable from several pieces of wood, and other matters being found at the depth of sixteen feet and more from the surface of the solid rock of stone.

At the same place there is a cold bath, whose water of late has been discovered to have nearly the same qualities with those of Bristol. They are very smooth, pleasant to the taste and make excellent tea.

P. For what is Straunton-drew, situate on the river Chew, peculiarly noted?

T. For an antient monument, called the Wedding; from a ridiculous tradition among the people, that as a bride was go-

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ing to be married, both she and all her company were metamorphosed into these stones which are five or six feet high, and placed in a circular form. The whole monument which is ninety paces in diameter, is bigger than the famous Stone-henge.

P. What is the river Avon peculiar noted for?

T. For being at several places, in the spring of the year, perfectly covered; and coloured black with millions of fish, called Elvers, which are a kind of small eels, scarce so thick as the barrel of a goose-quill. These, we are told, the people skim from the surface of the water in great numbers, with small nets, and then by a peculiar method of ordering them, make them scour off their skins, at which time they look extremely white, and are made into cakes, which when fried are accounted dainties.

P. What is there peculiarly remarkable at Chew-Magna, or Bishop's-Chew?

T.. The country people there dig up a red bole, which they call redding, or ruddle, which is sent from thence all over England, and used principally for marking of sheep.

P. What

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P. What is there observable to be met with at Stowey?

T. A peculiar spring on one side of a hill there, the water whereof running thro' that little town, covers whatever it meets with in its course, with a stony crust. It has not, however, the same effect as its source, nor within twenty yards of it, but the place where this effect is most visible is about forty or fifty yards from the spring-head, where it sheathes every thing with a stony-case, and renders the sides of the bank a hard rock, and from thence all along its stream, it covers sticks, &c. with a hard stony substance.

P. What is there more curious than ordinary to be met with at Cainsham?

T. A great number of stones which bear some resemblance to serpents. These snake-stones, as they are commonly called, have the representation of a snail in raised work upon their surface, which is always coiled up, the tail being in the center, and the larger part, where the head ought to be placed, on the outward circle, but there is not the least appearance of a head to be found; tho' the country-people to heighten the wonder, sometimes cut the stone into

that form with a knife. These spiral rolls are perfectly close, so that no other part of the stone can be seen between them, and for the generality they are ribbed with cross-lines, and resemble the body of a snake, when its skin has been stript off. These stones are of a different size; some being a foot round only, and others above a yard. The substance whereof they are composed is a kind of free-stone of a whitish colour. There are always near them oyster-shells, cockle-shells, and the shells of several other kinds of sea-fish.

P. What is there more remarkable than common at Bristol?

T. On each side of the river Avon the hills form a most beautiful prospect, tho' they are but of little advantage to their possessors; for they are neither fertile in herbage, nor timber; but are for the generality filled with rocks, which often lie near at least, if not quite up to the surface; they are covered, in a manner, with fern and furze, and the few trees that are scattered about upon them, don't flourish like those in a better soil. There are just grounds to imagine, that these hills abound with iron, from the redness of the earth
and

and stones, which, in many places are coloured with ore, and from the Ochre found in the cracks of the rocks. The vallies, however, make amends for the barrenness of the hills; for these are fruitful enough, and the soil in many places deep. These are chiefly employed in pasture.

The Ochre above-mentioned is greatly superior to that which is found in the shops; and considerable advantage might be made of it, in all probability, by collecting the purest parts of it, and sending it to London, where it might be sold to the painters at an advanced price.

A very curious painter has observed, that there are here two principal kinds of earth of the nature of Ochre; the one red and the other yellow; which are of a friable or brittle nature, and often crumple to dust in the places where they lie. The red is of a deep colour between crimson and purple, and is a strong body, the yellow is of a fine gold colour, and is light, dusty, and of so strong a body, that a dram of it is equal to an ounce of common Ochre, and is besides of a better colour. Each tinges the fingers very much on being touched, and when ground up with oil

in the common way, prove excellent colours for painting.

There is another sort of the deep red that is found in larger quantities, but then it is not so fine : and in some of the crevices of the yellow iron-ores, there is a fine light sort like meal ; which may be blown away with the breath, and is as fine to the touch as powder for the hair. This is of a lemon-colour, and nearly resembles what is generally called French Ocre, but 'tis much finer, and to be found no where but in small quantities. Here are lumps likewise of emery, and manganese ; and in the same rocks there are moreover, veins of lead-ore, but they are small, and the ore in general is not over rich.

P. What have you peculiarly remarkable on the banks of of the lower Avon ?

T. That river is bounded, on each side, with high, rough, and craggy rocks, the cliffs whereof are in some places above 200 feet high, projecting in an astonishing manner ; and as many of these are covered with tufts of grass, small shrubs, tall plants, and chumps of dwarf-trees, they seem to form little hanging woods, and afford the most agreeable and romantic prospect imaginable.

ginable. Here are likewise to be found several beautiful chrystals and spars, but not in that plenty nor variety as those in the county of Gloucester.

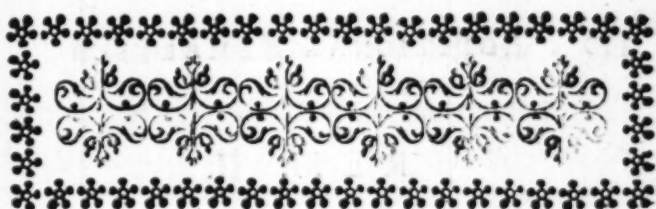
P. What character in general do the natives of this county bear?

T. The common people are naturally adapted to endure labour and fatigue, which result of necessity from mountains and valley, a stony, sterile soil, with very bad roads in almost every part; at the same time, however, they are, for the most part, perfectly honest, well favoured, and of strong constitutions; a rustic simplicity (even in the very lowest class) governs their manners, and renders them very courteous to strangers. The better sort, or such as are persons of education and fortune, are much the same in this county as in other places; but their good sense and taste is unquestionable, since they are fond of promoting all kinds of literature; but more particularly ambitious of promoting the study of philosophy in all its branches. As to mechanicks, there are several here who distinguish themselves greatly by their manual operations: Bridgwater in particular is remarkable for the curiosities that are wrought there. A gentleman of Taunton, some years ago, invented
a ma-

a machine for making of bricks, and another for weaving diaper, by which a man might do as much work in one day as is for the most part done in a week. And as for variety of mills for the manufacturing of brags, copper, log-wood, wire, paper, corn, &c. there is no county perhaps throughout England thar can rival them.



ADDITIONAL



ADDITIONAL REMARKS.

REMARK I.

THIS county has 42 hundreds, 132 vicarages, 385 parishes, near 1700 villages, and 30 market towns. It sends 18 members to parliament, viz. two for the county, two for Bristol, two for Bath, two for Wells, two for Taunton, two for Bridgwater, two for Ilchester, two for Milbourn port, and two for Minhead.

The

R E M. II.

The area of this county has been computed by some at near two millions of acres; its houses above fifty thousand, and its number of souls two hundred and eighty thousand.

R E M. III.

This county, which lies in the diocese of Bath and Wells, formerly gave title of earl, as it does now of duke to the family of Seymour, descended from Edward Seymour, duke of Somerset, and uncle to king Edward VI.

R E M. IV.

Bristol, which is 94 computed, and 115 measured miles from London, is the second city in the British dominions for trade, wealth and number of inhabitants. The corporation now consists of a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, two sheriffs, and forty-two common-council-men. Besides its cathedral and eighteen churches, there are seven or eight meeting-houses of protestant dissenters; amongst whom the quakers are a very considerable body. As to the church of St. Mary Radcliffe,
Camden

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Camden assures us that 'tis the finest parish-church in the kingdom of England. It has a stone bridge over the Avon, of four arches, and on which there are houses built, as on London bridge. It has an exchange likewise, like that in London, which was first opened on the 21st of September 1743. Its quay is one of the most commodious that England can boast of for shipping and landing of merchants goods. Its merchants were the first adventurers to the West-Indies. There are here some considerable manufactures of woollen stuffs, particularly cantaloons, carried on chiefly by French refugees. On the college green, which is a very delightful place, stands not only the cathedral, but the cross, which is a fine Gothic structure, with the effigies of several kings of England all round it. In this city there are eighteen hospitals, besides charity-schools, a guild-hall, and a very large council house. Its custom-house is adorned with rows of trees, which lead to a curious equestrian statue of king William III. in the center. It has fourteen gates, but its walls were demolished in the reign of William Rufus.

Its

R E M. V.

Its market days are on Wednesdays and Saturdays, besides their cattle markets on Thursdays; their two fairs are held on St. James's day, and on the festival of St. Paul. At each of these fairs there are several Londoners that keep open shops; during which some of the inn-keepers in the parts adjacent make no less than 100 beds a-piece for the reception of their guests.

R E M. VI.

This city has given title of earl to two noble families; viz. to that of Digby, since extinct; and at present to that of lord Hervey of Ickworth.

R E M. VII.

Bath, which is 89 computed, and 108 measured miles from London, was famous in the Roman time for its medicinal waters, and Camden tells us, that king Bladud found out the use of them 300 years before Christ. In the summer season there are no less sometimes

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times than 8000 strangers, who frequent this place for health's sake, or for amusement.

R E M. VIII.

The corporation consists of a mayor, eight aldermen, and twenty four common-council-men. It gave the title of earl formerly to the family of Granville; as it does at present to the right honourable William Pulteney, Esq; so created by his present majesty in 1742.

R E M. IX.

Its markets are on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and its fairs are kept on February the 2d, and 24th, May 7, June 9, and August 1.

R E M. X.

Wells, which is 102 computed, and 127 measured miles from London, is a very clean and neat, tho' but a small city. It was first made a free borough in the reign of Henry II. and the charter ratified by king John, and afterwards by queen Elizabeth.

No. 10. H h beth;

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beth: and tho' the chief officer at first was only stiled master; yet before the reign of queen Elizabeth, the borough was called a city, and its chief magistrate a mayor. 'Tis at present governed by a mayor, recorder, seven masters, or aldermen, and sixteen gownsmen or common-council-men. A charity school was erected here in 1714, for twenty boys and twenty girls. The town hall maintains thirty poor men and women. The bishop's palace is reckoned the handsomest of that denomination throughout the whole kingdom of England. On the south side it looks like a castle, and is fortified not only with walls, but a moat likewise.

R E M. XI.

The chief manufactures here are knitting of hose, and bone-lace. Here is a handsome market-house and town-house, where the corporation meets, and where the judges hold their assizes.

The

R E M. XII.

The members of parliament are chosen by the citizens, who are in number above 500. The markets here are kept on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and the fairs are on May 3, June 24, October 11, and November 27.

R E M. XIII.

Taunton, which is 120 computed, and 147 measured miles from London, is delightfully situated on the river Thyne. 'Tis a populous borough, and Camden calls it one of the eyes of the county.

R E M. XIV.

Tho' this corporation forfeited their charter, which had been granted by king Charles I. yet a new one was procured for it, from king Charles II. by bishop Mew. The corporation now consists of a mayor, Recorder, Justice, two aldermen, twenty four capital burgeses, a town clerk, two

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constables, two Portreeves, and two sergeants at mace.

R E M. XV.

The inhabitants are computed at above 20,000 persons, of whom some thousands are employed in the manufactures of serges, duroys, sagathees, shalloons, &c. for weaving whereof 1100 looms have been employed at a time; and children of above five years old, may earn their own bread in this manufacture.

R E M. XVI.

The Thone by act of parliament in the reign of king William III. was made navigable from hence to Bridgwater; there is a bridge over it maintained by the corporation. Here are moreover two parish churches, several protestant dissenting meeting houses, a well endowed grammar school; an hospital, and a great number of small alms houses.

Many

R E M. XVII.

Many of the inhabitants of this town were in the ruin of the duke of Monmouth; for this was the chief scene of the bloody execution of his adherents, by general Kirk, and that inhuman, blood thirsty wretch judge Jeffries. No wonder therefore, that when the prince of Orange arrived here from Torbay, this whole town ran to him with such universal joy, that 'twas thought, if the prince had wanted it he might have raised a little army in the town and parts adjacent.

R E M. XVIII.

The election of members of parliament here is very singular; for every pot waler, that is to say, every one who dresses his own victuals, is intitled to a vote; so that the inmates or lodgers, to qualify themselves, a little before the election comes on, make a fire in the streets, and there boil their victuals.

R E M. XIX.

Its markets are on Wednesdays and Saturdays ; and its fairs on June 17, and July 17 for a week.

R E M. XX.

Bridgwater, which is 116 computed, and 143 measured miles from London, was given, after the conquest, to one Walter d'Norman; and in all the old charters it is called Brugge-Walter, or Walter's Borough. It is now governed by a mayor, a recorder, two aldermen, who are justices of the peace, and twenty-four common-council men. They have also a town-clerk, a clerk of the market, a water-bailiff, and two serjeants at mace. Out of the common-council there are two bailiffs annually chosen, who have the same power as sheriffs, and a receiver, who collects the town rents, and makes payments. The revenues are valued at ten thousand a year. The freemen of this city are free in all the ports of England and Ireland, London and Dublin only excepted. It has a spacious town-hall, and a high cross. Its church has a lofty spire,
and

and here is a very fine meeting-house, with an advanced seat for such mayors and aldermen as happen to prove dissenters; as also a private academy for such of their youth, as are intended for preachers. Here is a large free-school and a neat alms house. In 1724 the late duke of Chandos built a fine street here with convenient warehouses.

R E M. XXI.

Its markets are on Thursdays and Saturdays; and its fairs, which last two days each, the first Tuesday in Lent, May 17, June 24, September 21, and December 29.

R E M. XXII.

In the civil wars this town sustained several hot sieges. It was at first garrisoned by the parliament, but at length reduced by the king's forces, who held it out for him till the war was almost at an end; but in 1653, it surrendered to Oliver Cromwell, after it had suffered severely by the siege, with a treasure amounting to 100,000 l. besides cannon and other military stores. In 1685, the duke of Monmouth

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Monmouth lodged in its castle, was proclaimed king there, and there touched persons for the king's evil. King James II. came hither in 1686, and lodged in the castle, where he celebrated mass; but his judges touched for the evil in these parts, by those butcheries, which are recorded in the bloody assizes.

R E M. XXIII.

Ilchester, or Ivelchester, which is 104 computed, and 125 measured miles from London, is so called, because it once had a castle, which was built, as some say, by the Romans, and stands on the river Ivel. It is evident from the ruins, and from two towers on the bridge, that it was once a large place, and encompassed with a double wall.

R E M. XXIV.

'Tis governed by two bailiffs, who, with twelve burgesses, are lords of the manor. In the reign of Edward III. the assizes for the county were fixed here; but since they have been held alternately at Wells, Taunton and Bridgwater. The knights of the shire are always elected here, and 'tis the place for
the

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the county courts and jail. And as its principal dependance is on the latter, it cannot well be either very polite, rich or happy. It has the honour, however, of giving title of lord to Stephen Fox, the twin brother of Henry Fox, Esq; secretary at war, and late a lord of the treasury; whose father, Sir Stephen Fox, was also a lord of the treasury in the reign of king William III.

R E M. XXV.

This town is noted for being the birth-place of Roger, the famous Friar Bacon, and for the execution of one Mrs. Branch, a widow of some fortune at a farm-house between Bath and Frome, who was hanged here in 1740, together with her daughter, for the most barbarous murder of their maid servant, by whipping her for several hours together.

R E M. XXVI.

Its market is on Wednesday; and its fairs on July 22 and August 29.

Milborn

R E M. XXVII.

Milborn-port, which is 98 computed, and 116 measured miles from London, is no market town nor corporation, tho' it is represented in parliament. It appears, however, in Dooms-day-book, to have had a market once and fifty-six burghesses.

R E M. XXVII.

Minhead, which is 132 computed, and 167 measured miles from London, is an antient borough, with a harbour in the Bristol channel, near Dunster castle, much frequented by passengers to and from Ireland. It was given by William the Conqueror, to William de Mohan, and incorporated by queen Elizabeth, with great privileges, on condition the corporation should keep the quay in good repair; but its trade falling off, the quay was neglected, and they lost their privilege. The Lutterels being possess'd of it, obtain'd a statute in the reign of king William III. for recovering the port, and keeping it in repair,
by

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by which they were to have the profits of the quay and pier for thirty-six years, which have been computed at about two hundred pounds per Annum; and they were at the expence of new building the quay. In pursuance of another act, passed about nine years ago, confirming the former, a new head has been built to the quay, the beach cleared, and a great progress made in the pier, &c. so that now, the biggest ship may enter, and ride safe in the harbour.

R E M. XXVIII.

It was formerly governed by a portreeve, but now by two constables, chosen annually at a court-leet, held by the Lutterels, who are the lords of the manor. Its chief trade is with Ireland, from whence about forty vessels used to come hither in a year with wool; and about 4000 chaldrons of coals are yearly imported at this place, Watchet and Porlock, from South-Wales, which lies directly opposite to it, about seven leagues over, the common breadth of this channel, all the way from Holms to the Land's-end. Here are several rich merchants, who have some trade also to
Virginia

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Virginia and the West-Indies, and they correspond much with the merchants of Barnstable and Bristol in their foreign commerce. Three or 4000 barrels of herrings, which come up the Severn in great shoals about Michaelmas, are caught, cured, and shipped off here every year for the Mediterranean, &c. Its market is on Wednesday; and its fair on Whitfun-Tuesday.

F P N - I S.

